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# COLLECTIONS





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## LOG COLLEGE AGAIN.

### NOTABLE EVENTS OF THE OLD TIME.

An Interesting Letter From Our Local  
Historian, Samuel Evans, Esq.—Some  
Points Worthy of Careful  
Perusal. 1889.

The "Log College" celebration at Neshaminy, a few days ago, recalls the name of one of the students of that historic place. The name has been kept green in my memory, when I think of the associations of my youth, and consequently my happiest years. For, say what you will, there are no friendships or associations in life half so dear as those of our earlier years. They are indeed the genuine attachments, and when they pass away our hearts do not enter into any new ones of equal tenderness and force. I was a Sunday School scholar, under the superintendency of the late lamented and pious William Pitt Beatty, the youngest son of the Rev. Charles Beatty and an intimate friend of Erourius Beatty, the former son who published the *Columbia Spy*, fifty or more years ago. And after a lapse of more than twenty years, renewed our early friendship, when we unexpectedly met each other at the headquarters of General McCall, at Camp Pierpont, Virginia, in the winter of 1861-'2. I recall with pleasure the memory of his sister, Anna Beatty, the companion of my mother, whom I admired very much. Both have crossed the great river, to meet the friends gone before them.

Charles Beatty's claim to eminence upon the page of history does not rest wholly upon his prominence as a Presbyterian minister of the gospel. In educational, and missionary work along the frontiers among the pioneer settlers and rendering active personal aid to resist the encroachments of the French and Indians upon the unprotected frontiers of this Province, he was among the foremost advocates of education, the defender of his country's cause. He was of that Scotch-Irish Presbyterian stock, that never produced a tory in our struggle for Independence.

He was born in Antrim county, Ireland, about the year 1713 or '14. While he was a child his father died, and left him to the care of a robust and kind mother, Christiana, who was a Clinton, and a relative of the late Gov. Clinton, of New York. Her son Charles, when yet quite a youth, must have given promise of a great future career, which a fond and ambitious mother

was ever ready to foster and encourage. His aptness and early promise of talent must have been noticed by the ministers in the Presbytery in which she resided, and each and every one of them must have rendered valuable aid in teaching him the languages which he mastered thoroughly before he attained his fifteenth year.

On May 20, 1729, Charles Clinton, an uncle of the subject of this sketch, and a number of friends, chartered a ship, in which the widow of Christian Clinton and her son Charles were also taken to emigrate to America.

On the voyage the captain attempted to starve the passengers and get possession of their property, several died, among whom was a son and daughter of Mr. Clinton. They landed at Cape Cod, October 4, 1729, instead of at Philadelphia, where they intended to go. In the spring of 1731 they selected a permanent settlement in Ulster county, now Orange county, in New York, which was about six miles west of the Hudson river, and sixty miles north of New York. It is probable that Charles Beatty, the uncle, who was well educated, rendered some assistance to his nephew. Before the latter attained his majority, he concluded that he would earn his own living—probably after his mother's death. He purchased merchandise of various kinds in New York and packed the same on his back, and went out among the settlers and sold his goods. This pursuit was not a congenial one, nor was it calculated to advance him in pursuits more befitting his accomplishments. I think, therefore, it must have been only a temporary expedient to procure means to pursue other callings, or to see the country.

In his wanderings among the settlers in the Province of Pennsylvania, he came to the "Log College" of William Tennent.

About the year 1738—he may never have heard prior to that time of this unpretentious Log College—he met the students, perhaps during recess, when it occurred to him to have a little fun at their expense. They commenced to dicker with the young man for his wares in Latin, to which he promptly responded in the same tongue, and it was not very long before he cornered the entire school. When their preceptor, the Rev. William Tennent, came to their rescue. He at once engaged young Clinton in conversation in the Latin tongue, not only as to his wares, but they gradually drifted into ecclesiastic history. Mr. Tennent was so impressed with his learning, and the evidence he gave of a sincere piety, that he commanded him to discard his pack and enter his college and prepare himself for the ministry; which he promptly did. He graduated with the highest honors at this primitive college. On October 12, 1742, he was licensed to preach by the New Brunswick Presbytery, and was assigned to Nottingham. In 1743 he was called to the "Forks of Neshaminy." His



eloquence and erudition and patriotism soon attracted the attention of not only those in the neighborhood, but throughout the bounds of the Presbytery and General Synod. His great influence among Presbyterians commended him to the attention of the Governors of New Jersey and Pennsylvania as a very proper person to aid the English against the encroachments and brutalities of the French and Indians along our frontiers.

#### His Marriage.

On June 24, 1746, he married Miss Ann Reading, daughter of Hon. John Reading, the Governor of New Jersey. After the college was removed to Princeton he was very active in its behalf. He was the founder of "Nassua Hall" at that place. In 1754 the Synod sent him to the valley of Virginia and North Carolina. The defeat of Braddock kindled in his bosom the military ardor of his grandfather, who was a high officer under King Charles. In the spring of 1756, he accepted the chaplaincy in Col. William Clapham's regiment, which was organized to protect the frontier settlers. The Synod willingly gave him permission to go in defence of the border settlers, a large majority of whom were followers of John Calvin.

He set out from his home at Neshaminy to join his regiment at Harris' Ferry, on May 3, 1756. He was accompanied as far as the Schuylkill river by his elders, and a number of friends. After leaving them his first stopping place was at the sign of the "Ship" on the old Philadelphia and Lancaster road.

On Tuesday morning, May 4, he started early, and took breakfast at the Rev. Robert Smith's, at Pequay Meeting House, where he had founded an academy, justly celebrated, and it was doubtless an offshoot of the old Log College through Mr. Blair, his father-in-law, who was one of Tennent's students. They were doubtless congenial companions, for Mr. Clinton went a few miles away from his direct road to call upon Mr. Smith.

They rode together as far as Mrs. Caldwell's, who kept the tavern along the Philadelphia road near the western boundary of Salisbury township, where they took dinner. Mr. Clinton arrived in Lancaster in the afternoon, drenched with rain. He put up at Sanders', and while there Col. Clapham and Capt. Lloyd called to see him. Having ridden through the rain, he retired to rest early in the evening.

On May 5th, at 10 A.M., in company with Governor Morris, Col. Clapham, and several other officers and gentlemen, rode out the old Paxton Road in the direction of Harris' Ferry. They arrived at Barny Hughes' "Black Bear" tavern at Canoy Creek, now Elizabethtown, where they dined. (Col. Hughes was the founder of that town.) They reached Harris' Ferry in the even-

ing, having ridden about thirty-six miles, half of the distance having been over a very rough road. On the following day

he preached to the soldiers encamped at Harris' Ferry and the people. The short time he remained at the Ferry he found time to preach to large audiences at the Rev. John Roan's, Rev. John Elder's, and at Capt. Hendricks' and Yellow Batches Creek.

He found the soldiers an unruly and wild set of men, and they did not manifest much reverence when listening to our chaplain expound the gospel truths. He was a bold and eloquent preacher, and their want of reverence did not for a moment deter him from telling them some unwelcome truths. A very unexpected condition confronted him with which he boldly grappled and tried to remedy.

There were too many female camp followers, which he thought did not conduce to the spiritual welfare of the officers and men, and in strong terms he reproved them. When the troops moved up along the river, this undesirable class followed the troops. Mr. Beatty continued to lecture the officers upon their conduct. After arriving twelve or fifteen miles above Harris' Ferry, he assisted to erect "Fort Halifax." After its completion he asked for leave of absence to visit his family, which was readily granted. He was not the kind of a chaplain who overlooked irregularities in the moral conduct of the soldiers, but he endeavored to make them better men and better soldiers. It is likely he went home a little disgusted with the state of affairs, for it seems that he did not return to his command again.

On September 17, 1757, he with two or three others was commissioned to build a fort in Wyoming Valley, and erect houses for the friendly Indians. Four hundred soldiers and men accompanied them.

In 1766 the Synod sent him and the Rev. George Duffield to the frontier west of the Allegheny Mountains. They were the first ministers who preached at "Fort Pitt." He returned to Princeton and labored unceasingly to aid Princeton College. In 1768 he took Mrs. Beatty with him to England to consult physicians there as to her health. I think she died there before his return. He collected about three thousand pounds in England to aid Princeton College. In August, 1772, he died at Barbadoes, in the West Indies, whither he had gone to raise funds to aid the Princeton College.

He left several stalwart sons, to wit: Charles, John R., Ercurius and William Pitt. The first three of whom became conspicuous officers in the Revolutionary Army.

William P. Beatty was born at Neshaminy, Bucks county, Pa., March 31, 1766. Before he attained his majority he found his way to Philadelphia, where he obtained a clerkship, to make himself familiar with mercantile pursuits.

In 1793 he was engaged in the office of Mr. Nicholson, the comptroller of the treasury. In 1798 he removed to Col. and opened a store on Front st.



and Walnut, in connection with Richard S. Leach. In 1799 he married. He was appointed Postmaster at Columbia, by President John Adams, which office he held until Jefferson appointed another person. In 1808 he was appointed Justice of the Peace by Governor McKean. In 1805 he helped to organize the Presbyterian church in Columbia, and was its first ruling elder, a position he held until his removal from the town in 1843. In 1810 he was appointed secretary and treasurer of the Susquehanna Improvement Company, and in the following year treasurer of the York and Susquehanna Turnpike Company. In 1812 he was appointed treasurer of the Columbia Bridge Company, and in 1814 he was elected cashier of the Columbia Bank and Bridge Company, a position he held with honor until 1821.

#### Out By Jefferson—In By Adams.

He was re-appointed Postmaster by John Quincy Adams, which he held until 1837. He was superintendent of the Presbyterian Sunday School for a number of years, and often in the absence of Rev. S. Boyer, the regular pastor, he read a sermon and conducted the exercises. He held the office of Chief Burgess, and was also treasurer of the Columbia Water Company. He held many offices of trust, and was an active supporter of the schools, public libraries, and the first temperance movement in the town.

In personal appearance he was tall, stately and dignified in his carriage. He was not given to levity or frivolity in conversation or manner. He wore a queue. He was respected by every one. He moved to Harrisburg in 1843, and died in Philadelphia at his son's, the late Dr. George Beatty. His son William P. died at Harrisburg, in 1860, and John R. died in same place in 1866. Ann Eliiza died recently at Stubenville, Ohio, where her cousin, the late Rev. C. C. Beatty, resided, and where he largely endowed a school and the church.

#### About the Other Son.

Ercurius resided and died at Carlisle. He was a brave soldier, a genial and companionable friend, and a prominent citizen, whose death was a severe loss to his family, and the community.

Hamilton Bell, a young man of great promise, was also graduated at the "Log College." His first call was to old Donegal church, about the year 1744. He was there but a few months when he gave unmistakable evidence of a fall from grace, and he was at once reported to the Presbytery by the congregation. He undertook to fight them, but his sturdy flock would brook no nonsense, and they made him come down out of the pulpit. Before his first year had expired the Synod appointed a committee to go upon the ground, and under the shade of the giant oak which stands there in front of the church to-day, the committee met and investigated the charges against Mr. Bell, and found them fully sustained. Mr. Bell was "bounced," and on the tablet in

the church there is no record of his ministry over that flock. He seems never to have recovered from his fall from grace, and he died in obscurity, and neglected.

In this connection it may be stated that the Rev. Colin McFarquahr, the pastor of Donegal church for thirty years, established a classical school in Maytown, in 1777, which ranked among the best in the country. He prepared scholars for a college course. He was a fine Greek and Latin scholar. The early professors of Washington and Jefferson College, Pa., owed their knowledge of Greek and Latin to Mr. McFarquahr.

The Rev. Samuel and his brother John Blair, and Rev. Samuel Findley, of Nottingham, were graduated at the "Log College."

The Tennents, and many of his distinguished pupils, followed Whitefield, and as a consequence two-thirds of all the congregations in the jurisdiction of the General Synod split in two. Emotional religion in the Presbyterian Church gradually died out after Whitefield and Tennents crossed the great river, and the church gradually swung back to the customs introduced by Calvin.

Dr. Francis Allison and Rev. James Anderson, of Donegal, followed Whitefield and attempted from the same platform to stem the tide that Whitefield started. Their efforts ended in failure.

SAMUEL EVANS.

COLUMBIA, Pa., Sept. 9, 1889.

## The Doylestown Democrat.

DOYLESTOWN, PA., FEBRUARY 11, 1890.

### 14539 BITS OF HISTORY.

Read Before the Bucks County Historical Society, at the Annual Meeting, January 21, 1890, by W. W. H. Davis.

#### I.—THE DUTCH ON THE DELAWARE.

Holland played an important part in the discovery and settlement of the Valley of the Delaware. The Dutch flag was the first to catch the western breeze at the mouth of Delaware bay, on its discovery by Henry Hudson, August 28, 1609. In 1614, Cornelius Jacobson May ascended the Delaware some distance, and, two years later, Captain Hendrickson discovered the Schuylkill. Hollanders were the first white men to tread the soil of our country and State. In 1616, three Dutch traders set out from Fort Nassau, now Albany, to explore the interior, striking across the country to the headwaters of the Delaware, down whose western bank they traveled to the Schuylkill. Here they were made prisoners by the Minquas, but rescued by Captain Hendrickson at the mouth of the river. He was sent round from Manhattan in the Restless for this purpose, and ransomed the Dutchmen with kettles, beads and other merchandise.

The Dutch gave to the Delaware the first names it bore, the Zuydt, or South river, the



Nassau, Prince Hendricks and the Charles river. About 1624-25, the Dutch West India company established a trading house on a small island near the western shore of the Delaware, just below Trenton Falls, and placed thereon four families of French Walloons. This was the first white settlement within the limits of Bucks county. The Dutch carried on a profitable trade with the Indians as early as 1621. They held undisputed sway on the Delaware down to 1638; and the English, destined to be the governing race on the river from its mouth to its source, did not make their appearance until 1640. In 1646, Andreas Huddie put up a stake at the Falls, with a Dutch coat-of-arms on it, and claimed the country west of the Delaware, for Holland. A Dutch traveler, named Van Der Donk, was the first to write and publish a book about the country along the Delaware. The Dutch and Swedes held a joint occupancy for seventeen years, and until the English displaced them both. The Swedes were the first Europeans to make a purchase of land of the Indians in the limits of Bucks county. This was soon after 1638, and Peter Lindstrom, a Swedish engineer, surveyed and mapped the Delaware from its mouth to the Falls, in 1654. At the time of the English conquest of the Delaware, 1655, the population on the river was about 400, most Swedes. This people, few in numbers, made their mark on the future of the State. They built the earliest churches and introduced Christian worship in the wilderness west of the Delaware. One or two of these early congregations is still prosperous bodies. The Dutch introduced negro slavery into our State and county.

#### II.—PERSONALITY OF WILLIAM PENN.

The appearance, and personal character, of William Penn are not understood. The outlandish painting by Benjamin West, of the Apoeraphal Elm Tree Treaty, represents him as an old, broad-faced, very fat and clumsy man, as if he had been born and brought up in an ancestral broad-brim and shad-belly. This picture is brought to the attention of children in their earliest years, and the impression never leaves them. The genuine William Penn was an entirely different-looking sort of person. He was an accomplished and elegant gentleman; polite and refined and conversant with the usages of the most polished society of the time. He was reared amid luxury, and grew up surrounded by all the appliances of wealth, and was educated in the refinement of the age. He wore a sword like a true cavalier; and the only portrait of him extant, painted at the age of twenty-three, represents him a very handsome young man. He practiced athletic exercises and excelled in them. He spent two years in France, mostly in Paris, before he came to America, where he applied himself to the study of the language and theology, and acquired the polish of that polite nation. On one occasion, while in Paris, he was attacked by an highwayman, and drawing his sword, vanquished him. When he came to Pennsylvania he was only thirty-eight, hardly in his prime, and I doubt whether a more courtly man had crossed the Atlantic to settle on these shores. He was tall and elegant, and polished. His dress has been entirely mis-

represented likewise. His shad-belly coat as the costume is named, was a myth as to Penn. After he became a Friend, he wore the dress of the period with the feather and tinsel left off. Nor was he the austere man he is painted, but indulged in all the innocent pleasures of life, and relished the good things God placed at his hand. While he occupied his elegant home at Pennsbury, he maintained the state and dignity that belonged to one of his rank, and dispensed a most generous hospitality to all who came. He was, in the truest sense, a Christian gentleman; enlightened lawgiver, far in advance of his generation. The work he did, for civilization and Christianity, in planting a colony west of the Delaware, can hardly be estimated at this day. The impress Penn and the Quakers made on America's future is not second to that of the Pilgrim Fathers.

#### III.—BUCKS IN THE REVOLUTION.

One of the most interesting features of our county history is the part she played in the Revolution. Although no battle was fought in Bucks, it was the theatre for the movement of armies. The Continental army, with Washington at its head marched across it several times, and in the trying period of December, 1776, that army took shelter behind the friendly Delaware. Three signers of the Declaration, Taylor, Clymer and Morria made their home in Bucks and one was buried here. While the county was loyal to the colonies, a large minority of the inhabitants were disaffected.

After Washington crossed into Bucks, December, 1776, his small army, strengthened by some militia, was posted on, or near, the river, from above New Hope down to Dunl Ferry. Newtown was the depot of stores. Before crossing Washington had ordered all the boats on the river, for the distance of sixty miles to be collected and secured on the west bank. While the Continental army was shivering on this bank of the river, the enemy had comfortable quarters on the opposite and was only waiting for the river to freeze that he might cross over.

Washington and his most trusted lieutenants quartered at farm houses near the troops, and in easy communication with each other. The commander-in-chief was at William Keith's on the road from Brownsburg to the Eagle tavern; Greene was at Robert Merrick's, a few hundred yards across the fields and meadows; Sullivan was at Hayhurst's on the road to Newtown; and Knox and Hamilton were at Dr. Chapman's over Jericho Hill to the north. Headquarters was well-sheltered convenient to the river, close to Jericho Hill from the top of which signals could be served a long way up and down the river and within a few miles of Newtown, the depot of supplies. The old mansions where Washington, Greene, Knox and Hamilton quarters are still standing and little change has come. Keith house being the last to yield to improvement. It is a two-story stone dwelling with stone kitchen adjoining, and was posted Keith, in 1763. The pine door, in two was set in a solid oak frame garnish wooden lock, 14x8 inches. The Merriam a fourth of a mile away was also of syrup feet square with a kitchen at the west



The farm was bought by Samuel Merrick, in 1773, and now belongs to Edward, a descendant. As the house was not yet finished, Greene had the room he occupied tastefully painted with a picture of the Rising Sun over the mantel.

Samuel Merrick had a family of half grown children, and Greene purchased the confidence of the young daughter, Hannah, by the gift of a small silver tea canister, which was kept in the family many years. The Rhode Island blacksmith lived on the fat of the land at Merrick's, devouring his flock of turkeys, and monopolizing his only cow, besides eating her calf. In return he allowed the family to have sugar from his barrel. At the last supper before Trenton, Washington was the guest of Greene; the daughter, Hannah, waited upon the table, and kept the plate from which the commander-in-chief ate, as a memento of the occasion. After supper the family was sent across the fields to spend the night at a neighbor's, so there should be no listeners to the council of war that destroyed British Empire in America. The Chapman mansion, the quarters of Knox and Hamilton, now, or recently, owned by Edward Johnson, a mile from Brownsburg, is in excellent condition. Knox occupied the first floor of the east end, then divided into two rooms, but now all in one, 25x17. Hamilton, then a young captain of artillery, lay sick in the back room. The late Peter G. Cattel, who lived and died on an adjoining farm, used to tell that he saw Washington at Knox's quarters.

At what time Washington conceived the plan of recrossing the Delaware, to attack the Hessians at Trenton, is not known. He quietly made his preparations. Dr. Benjamin Rush tells us in his diary, that he saw Washington write the watchwords: "Victory or Death," on the 23d of December, and about the same time he wrote to Colonel Reed, "Christmas day, at midnight, one hour before day, is the time fixed upon for our attack on Trenton. For heaven's sake keep this to yourself, as the discovery of it may prove fatal to us." He made Gates acquainted with his project, and wished him to go to Bristol, take command there and operate from that quarter. But this jealous subordinate pleaded ill-health, and requested leave to proceed to Philadelphia. He left camp Christmas morning, a few hours before the troops marched for their rendezvous on the banks of the

Delaware, en route for Trenton. Gates forgot to halt at Philadelphia, but hastened on to Baltimore, to intrigue with Congress against the commander-in-chief.

For this dangerous work Washington took his most trusted battalions, from New England, Pennsylvania and Virginia, and, among the officers, were Greene, Mercer, Stirling, Stark, Stephen, Sullivan, St. Clair, Knox, Hand, Monroe and Hamilton. The men were provided with three days cooked rations, and were to carry forty rounds of ammunition. A few days before Christmas, boats were collected at Knowles' cove, a well-sheltered point in the river, above McKonkey's ferry. The troops left their camps about three o'clock, Christmas afternoon, and reached the rendezvous before nightfall. The morning was clear and cold, but became stormy with sleet, and,

about eleven o'clock, it commenced to snow a little. The river was full of ice. While Washington, whip in hand, was prepared to mount, Wilkinson, who had been sent to Philadelphia in the morning, and who had tracked the men by the blood from their feet, joined the troops, and handed him a letter. Before receiving it he exclaimed, with solemnity: "What a time is this to hand me letters!"

I need not pursue this eventful episode further. The troops were about 2,400 strong, with twenty small pieces of cannon, and never before was a mightier cause upheld by so small a body of men.

#### IV.—LICENSE AND TAVERNS.

License, taverns and their signs make up an interesting chapter of history. In the olden time, when few persons were able to read or write, taverns and their sign-boards were important factors in towns and cities. The names of many of the streets of London are derived from the sign of the tavern, frequently the first house on them. These signs suggest the mode of thought, or give an idea of the humor of the people. The Crown is one of the oldest English signs, and is typical of royalty. There was a Crown inn, in Cheapside London, as early as 1467. The crown was associated with other titles, as "Crown and Mitre," the "Crown and Anchor," etc. An old poet thus set forth the company that visited some of these resorts:

"The gentry to the King's head,  
The nobles to the Crown."

The Anchor is an old and favorite sign, and was used by early printers. The Anchor was probably used as an emblem, instead of referring to its use in shipping. It is said to have been frequently met with in the catacombs, and was typical of the words of St. Paul, "the Anchor of my Soul, &c." The Cross Keys are the arms of the Papal See, the emblem of St. Peter and his successors. It was frequently used by innkeepers and other tenants of religious houses, and, no doubt, was first used by them after the reformation. The Red Lion was, and still is, a very common sign, and is thought to have originated from the badge of John of Gaunt, Duke of Lancaster, who married a daughter of Don Pedro, the cruel, who wore a lion rampant to represent his claim to the throne of Castile. There was a Red Lion inn, in England, as early as 1415. For centuries the Bear inn was a celebrated tavern at the foot of London bridge, and, in the time of Richard III., it was the resort of aristocratic pleasure-seekers. Probably the first White Bear inn was named after this animal. Henry III. received one as a present from the King of Norway, in 1252. There were also Black Bear inns in the olden time. In this county we have had, or now have, taverns with all these typical signs.

The earliest license record here is in 1671, when Captain John Carr, English Governor on the west bank of the Delaware, granted licenses to both distill and sell. Down to near the close of the last century, the Court recommended applicants for license to the Governor. For a long time after the settlement of the county, liquors were used by all classes, and none thought them hurtful to health or morals. Richard Ridgeway, who lived in



alls, opposite Biles' island, was probably the first landlord in the county, as we understand the term, being licensed to keep an "ordinary," August 3, 1686. In 1706, Thomas Brock was licensed to keep a tavern, but he had probably kept one before, for he states in his petition that he is "now grown ancient, and is destitute of any other employment." In 1734 John Wells was licensed to keep a tavern at what is now New Hope, where he kept the ferry. In 1730 twenty-five persons were returned to the court "as retailers of rum" in the county, of which Bristol had five, and Makefield three. None were reported in Buckingham, Warminster or Southampton. The amount of tax assessed was £92.

The Red Lion tavern, in Bensalem, has probably been longer continually kept as a public house, than any other one in the county. It was kept by Philip Amos as early as 1730; at his death the license passed to his widow, who was still keeping it in 1770. It was a popular stopping place. When the delegates to the Continental Congress, from the East, were passing to and fro they were in the habit of halting there to dine. In 1781, part of the Continental army, on its march to Yorktown, encamped in its immediate vicinity, over night. The house is a stone structure, and the situation a picturesque one, near the Poquessing creek. The surroundings invite the traveler to repose.

The Anchor tavern, in Wrightstown, is one of our oldest inns, and may rival the Red Lion in length of years. The house was built by Joseph Hampton, who came into the township in 1724, and he kept the tavern several years. John Parker was the landlord in 1800, and it was known as "Parker's." When the Anchor was hung out as a sign, and that name given to it, I do not know. In 1744 thirty persons were licensed to keep taverns in Bucks county, and, among the landlords were Joseph Thornton, Newtown, on the site of the Brick hotel; John Baldwin, at the Cross Roads, now Hartsville, in Warwick, who moved away in 1748; Ann Amos, at the Red Lion, and John Ogilby, probably at the Buck, in Southampton. Bernard Vanhorne had been keeping tavern in Northampton, probably at the Black Bear, but he came to grief, in 1748, because, "he had no regard to the laws, encouraged drunkenness, gambling, fighting, etc., on week-days and Sunday, and "does frequently abuse and beat his wife in an extraordinary manner." In 1758, thirty-five persons made application for license. The Harrow tavern, Nockamixon, was so called in 1785, and twenty years earlier. John Wilson kept a tavern on, or near, the Durham road, same township.

The Brick hotel, Newtown, has something of a history, and interesting. It was built at an early day. We are not informed of the date, but a public house was kept on the site as early as 1744. In 1761, it was called the "Red Lion," and was sold by the sheriff, and bought by Amos Strickland, who had kept it since 1748. He died in 1779, leaving his estate to his wife and children. One of the daughters married Mark Hapenny, and one of Hapenny's daughters became the wife of the late John Yardley, of Lower Makefield. Amos Strickland is said to have built the first brick hotel on the site,

the same that is now standing, and is the east section of the present pile of buildings. The Hessian officers, captured by Washington at Trenton, were brought straightway to Newtown and confined in the Brick hotel. The house is indebted to the late Joseph Archambault, who bought it in 1820, for most of its modern improvements.

Keithline's tavern, at the intersection of the Durham and Easton roads, Bedminster, and lately replaced by a new building, was a noted inn in its day, hardly surpassed in the county—certainly by none in the upper end. The centre building was erected in 1759; the parlor and dining room in 1734; and the kitchen and small room at the west end in 1790, and 1801. Colonel Piper was its landlord from 1778 to his death, in 1823, when he was succeeded by his son-in-law, Jacob Keichline, who kept the house to his death, in 1861. Their joint occupancy reached through 83 years, only falling seventeen short of a century, which can be said of few public houses in the country. This old inn sheltered many of the greatest men of its generation, among them Wayne, Franklin, Bishop White, Dr. Rush, Joseph Bonaparte and others. On one occasion, while Colonel Piper, the landlord, was absent at Newtown, two of the Doane confederates came to the house and made an attack on his wife, but she drove them away with her husband's sword, and broke the arm of one with a flat-iron. The wife of Jacob Keichline was a born politician, and while she presided on the domestic side of the house, a great deal of county politics centered around the old tavern.

There is said to have been a tavern at Bristol as early as about 1705, but I can find no record of it. The Ferry house, corner of Mill and Badoliff street, was kept by Patrick O'Hanlin, in 1730. The Delaware house was built on its site, in 1765, by Charles Bessonett. In 1785, Archibald McElory built and opened a public house called the Cross Keys, but it is now a private dwelling.

The Black Bear, in Northampton, and the Buck, in Southampton, were noted taverns sixty years ago, and were much frequented by lovers of fun and politicians. There was a tavern at the Black Bear a full century ago, and one at the Buck, called by that name, in 1795. The old tavern, at Centreville, is considerably more than a century old and was kept by one John Bogart, in 1774. General Greene had his headquarters in it, for a time, while Washington occupied the west bank of the Delaware in 1776. There was a public house at Warminster, as early as 1758, and known as Dilworth's tavern. Thomas Beans, who kept it many years, was its landlord in 1800.

## LOCAL HISTORY.

New Britain Homesteads.—The Plantation of Benjamin Johns.—The Detweller Farm.—The Wetherill Mill.

THE plantation of Benjamin Johns was originally a large place of 200 acres, and 116 acres are yet attached to the



homestead. The latter is now owned by John Detweiler. Here are modern farm buildings, one-fourth of a mile southwest from New Galena. The situation is fine and sunny, being on the lower slope of the hill rising from the North Branch, and overlooking the meadows and lowlands along that stream, as well as the rising grounds beyond, which form the ridge called Iron Hill. A portion of the farm extends beyond the North Branch to the highway which passes along the western slope of Iron Hill. Until recent times an old, low, stone farm house, once the home of the Johns family, stood eastward of the present larger modern dwelling. The highway from New Galena to Chalfont passes by the farm buildings.

The name of the former owners of the plantation was spelled "Johns," and pronounced as such, although it was all the same as Jones, only retaining the original spelling. The older deeds pertaining to the property are not on record. It is only known by the boundaries of other properties, that the first of the name here, and probably the first settler, was Thomas Johns, who came from Wales. His brother, David Johns, lived at the same period on the latter Griffith farm, southwest of Chalfont. As David John bought the latter property in 1720, it is likely that his brother, Thomas, bought the plantation under consideration about that date or soon after.

Thomas Johns lived and died in Colonial times, and he was dead before 1767. His son Benjamin inherited the farm of 200 acres, and in 1779 he was assessed for that many, being the owner during the Revolution. His grounds extended to New Galena and covered the site of the later Wetherill mill. In 1797 Benjamin Johns, probably then an old man, sold his place to his son Ashbel. It then had the following boundaries: "Beginning at corner; thence by land of Jacob Slifer, northwest 205 perches; thence by same northeast 99 perches; thence by the estate of James Fulton, southeast 13 perches and northeast 39 perches, and southeast 28 1-2 perches and northeast 52 perches; thence by land of John Thompson, southeast 43 perches, and again by same northeast 10 perches; thence by other land of Benjamin Johns, southeast 60 perches and southwest 42 perches and southeast 61 perches; thence by land of Josiah James and others, southwest 14 1-2 perches to beginning." The price paid was £2,400. That same year Ashbel Jones sold 85 acres to his father again, it being the eastern corner of his farm, comprising the portion covering the site of the mill property, known as Wetherill's.

In 1838, forty-one years after purchasing the property of his father, Ashbel Jones made his will, and in 1843 his executors, who were his sons Ashbel and John J. Jones, conveyed the farm to Benjamin Yocum. The latter, in 1844, sold the same to Jacob Detwiler for \$3,487—about \$33 per acre. Jacob Detwiler had children, Mary, Joseph, John, Eliza, Anna and William. After another generation of time had passed away, his son, John B. Detwiler, became the owner, in 1876. He has greatly improved the property.

Benjamin Johns died intestate leaving three children, Ashbel, Mary, widow of James Fulton, and Anna wife of Thomas Mathias. Besides the 85 acres that he had retained when he conveyed 116 acres

to his son Ashbel, he appears to have purchased over thirty acres more, covering the sight of the New Galena lead mines, and so left 115 1-2 acres at the time of his death. This tract was bounded by land of Abraham Kratz, John Whistler, Jacob Haldeman, William Wigton, Anthony Kimble, and his son, Ashbel Jones.

#### THE WETHERILL MILL PROPERTY AND FARM.

At this point, the old Newtown road crosses the North Branch by the Guerdin Glen bridge, built in 1848. On the southeastern borders of the stream extensive excavations have been made for lead ore, at different times, for thirty years past. These operations gave the name to the cross-road village of New Galena, on the opposite side. These mines have never yet proved profitable, though considerable quantities of ore have been lifted to the surface. The old Wetherill farm house and grist mill stands on the southwest side of the highway. The family that long owned it was one of prominence and social note in the township. Samuel Wetherill came here from Wrightstown, built the mill, and was for many years a justice of the peace, and a man of influence and importance in the community. The Wetherills are an old family in Pennsylvania and of English stock. Different branches belong in the city of Chester, in Philadelphia, in Lower Providence, Montgomery county, and in Bucks county.

As before noted, this area was comprised in the lands held by Benjamin Johns at the time of his death, in 1797. His son-in-law, Thomas Mathias, bought the share of the other heir, Mary Fulton, for £397. This Thomas Mathias was the brother of the Baptist preacher, Rev. Joseph Mathias, and had two sons Ashbel and Abel. They did not prosper from causes more fully detailed in the writings of their uncle. In 1806, by the will of Thomas Mathias, his sons inherited this property, and Ashbel afterwards purchased the share of his brother. In 1817, the property passed from his possession into the hands of Henry Moyer. Moyer did not prove any more successful than Mathias, and in 1823 Sheriff Stephen Brock seized his eighty-one acres and sold them to William Wetherill. In 1837, another portion, comprising fifty-two acres and the site of the mill, was sold by Ashbel Jones and Benjamin Fulton to Samuel Wetherill, son of William Wetherill. The Wetherill ownership lasted thirty-five years, when, in 1855, Samuel Wetherill sold to Christian Moyer and removed elsewhere. He had a large family, among whom were Solomon and Vleenza, the latter a well-known citizen of Doylestown.

During the years since Wetherill's departure, there have been numerous transfers. The lead mine speculation broke out, and in 1863 the 123 acres sold for \$60,000. The changes have been: 1863, three tracts by Christian Moyer to Jacob and George Neimeyer; 1863, the Neimeyers to Lemuel Sisson; 1863, Sisson to Sidney Ashmore; 1868, Sheriff John Corcoran to Charles Holcombe, Edward Rorer and Daniel Gotwals; 1870, the aforesaid owner to F. J. Jobst and George Neimeyer; 1871, Jobst to Neimeyer; 1878, assignees of Joseph M. Detwiler to J. W. Savidge, mill and ten acres; 1885, J. W. Savidge to John T. Doan. The latter in 1881, had bought 78 acres of Seth Fly.

E. M.



## LOCAL HISTORY.

### The Geil Homestead—The Farms of Joseph N. Gross and Nathan Price, New Britain.

The Geil family has been a prominent one in New Britain for several generations. Its American founder was Jacob Geil, who came from Alsace, now a province of the German Empire, lying on the western side of the Rhine. Nothing is known of his parents, or the exact time of his coming, but the latter is supposed to have been about 1750. There is a tradition that he first lived on a farm in Warrington, afterwards the residence of Rev. Nathaniel Erwin, pastor of Neshaminy Presbyterian Church. This farm, however, was never owned by any of the Geil family. Jacob Geil was four times married, the name of his first wife being Ann. His second wife was Mary, daughter of John Clymer, of Franconia, whom he married after the date of 1768.

His first recorded purchase of land was made in 1763 of land in Springfield. This comprised a tract of 220 acres lying near the Durham line, which was purchased of Walter Crook. This property was held for five years, when in 1768 it was sold to Conrad Jacoby, for £635. In the deed he is described as a weaver, and Jacoby a blacksmith, coming from Milford.

In 1768 his second purchase was made, when a farm of 153 acres was bought in Northern New Britain. This was on the highlands to the northwest of the valley of North Branch, and now comprised in the farms of Nathan Price, Joseph N. Gross, Henry Shelly and a portion of that belonging to Abraham Johnson. The surface of these lands slope both toward the east and southeast, and from whence a splendid view may be obtained of hill and valley in those directions.

The site of the original homestead was near the present residence of Nathan Price. His ice house stands where was the house of Jacob Geil, and his home in the period before and during the Revolution. The large stone house, a little southward, was built in 1796 by William Godshalk. Whilst the owner of the premises, Geil built a barn in 1784, carving upon it his name and that date.

These lands were at the beginning of settlement, bought of the Penns in 1734 by Lewis Evans, a Welshman, to whom they conveyed 300 acres. In 1748, Lewis Evans sold a portion, or two hundred acres, to one of his sons, whose name was Lewis also. This piece had the following boundaries: "Beginning at a corner of Thomas Evans, thence northeast by land of said Evans and of William Wilson 226 perches; thence by John Williams and Philip Wood, northeast 148 perches; thence by John Grier and Thomas Stewart, southeast 226 perches; thence by Thomas Stewart, southwest 153 perches to beginning." This deed was witnessed by Abel and Benjamin Griffith before Simon Butler. The tract was not quite half a mile wide and nearly three-quarters in length.

This Lewis Evans, Sr., was an extensive landholder in northern New Britain, buying other tracts from the Proprietary

Government. It is not certainly known where his son Lewis lived, but the presumption is that this was his home. In 1758, when the latter sold this property to Samuel Barnhill, it was a "messuage plantation"—or one having a dwelling upon it. This must have been previously erected by Lewis Evans. The amount conveyed to Barnhill was 153 acres; 47 acres on the upper side having been detached before 1758.

After an ownership of ten years Barnhill conveyed to Jacob Geil on the 8th of April, 1768. In the deed Geil is said to be from Springfield. The price paid was £750, indicating considerable improvements. The deed was witnessed by Joseph Mathews and David Evans before Benjamin Mathews. Geil did not have enough money to pay all in cash, and so gave a mortgage to Barnhill, which was afterwards satisfied. The ownership of this place by Geil lasted eighteen years, or until 1786, when he sold to William Godshalk, also a Mennonite. In the assessment of 1779 Godshalk is mentioned as a weaver. Thirty acres more had been detached by Geil, leaving 123. Whilst living on this hilltop farm two, at least, of the sons of Jacob Geil were born; Abraham, born May 25, 1769, and John in 1778. Abraham died in 1830, and was the father of Abraham Geil, of Doylestown. John became the Mennonite preacher, an account of whom has been told in a previous sketch. Jacob Geil removed to another farm in 1786, situated immediately above Fountainville, but on the Plumstead side. This farm is now owned by William Gross, and on a portion of which now stands the store of that village. Jacob Geil afterwards removed to Chester county, and from thence to Virginia.

William Godshalk is supposed to have been the son of William Godshalk, of Towamensing, whose will was registered in 1775. He owned this property for forty-three years, when in 1829 he sold 117 acres to Daniel Gross, of Bedminster. As before mentioned, the original property is now much divided. In 1851 Daniel Gross sold 85 acres to his son Joseph. In 1850, another portion, including the site of the original dwelling, was sold to Isaac Godshalk, whose executors, in 1855, sold to Nathan Price the present owner. Joseph N. Gross has become a citizen of Doylestown.

Further information concerning Jacob Geil indicates that he removed from Chester county to Bowman's Mills, Rockingham county, Virginia, where he died in 1794. The children by his wife Mary (Clymer) were, sons, Abraham, John and Jacob, the two latter becoming preachers among the Mennonites; daughters, Catharine, Mary, Nancy and Susannah. Of these, Catharine married Christian Kratz, Mary to Samuel Godshalk, Nancy to Jacob Beery and Susannah to Christian Funk. His third wife was a Fly, who had children, Philip, Bettie and Rebecca. Of these, Bettie married David Selabach and Rebecca to John Schrauger. His last wife was named Frissel, whom he probably married in Virginia. There was one other wife (name unknown), who had a child Barbara, the wife of Samuel Swartz. The tombstone of the last wife, Anna Frissel, in the Frissel graveyard, Virginia, says that she was 88 years of age at the time of her death. The date of the death of Jacob Geil is stated to have been in 1794.



**The Worthington and Hill Farm, New Britain—John Williams.**

Although New Britain was never a Quaker township, yet there were a number of families of Friends among its early settlers and former residents. Among these, those of Foreman, Good, Holt, Pennington, Preston, Paxson, Kirkbride, Jones and Worthington may be mentioned. They were surrounded by neighbors of other beliefs, and their place of worship was distant, and it is not remarkable that succeeding generations ceased to be Quakers. In the assessment of 1779, Jonathan Worthington is mentioned as so much of a Quaker that "he refused to qualify," as was the case with some of the Mennonites. The same statement is made in regard to Thomas Good. Whatever may have been the case in later generations, the name of Hill was also one of the most respected in our county annals, they being originally settlers and large landholders in southwestern Plumstead. The Hills were Welsh and Baptists, whilst the Worthingtons were of English derivation. In 1724, Richard Hill, who had been a Philadelphia merchant, owned 1500 acres in Plumstead.

The old Worthington farm is now partially comprised within the premises of Francis Shaffer. The present buildings are old and of stone, situated on the summit of the elevation that rises northward from New Galena. It is about a mile east from the Hilltown Baptist Church. From here there is always a wealth of fine views, looking over valley and hill far to the south and east. The house was erected by David Worthington, perhaps before the present century.

It is quite difficult to present a clear and certain history of the ownership of the land of this portion of the hilltop. There were many changes during Colonial times and none of the transfers were recorded. No one stayed here long. There is a possibility that it was comprised in two portions. The names of successive owners are only ascertained by deed recitals and the boundaries of neighboring properties at different times. It is certain that the northeast portion, and probably the whole, adjoining the cross road, was held in succession by William Wilson, Joseph Arthur, William Barnhill and John Williams.

It is believed that the later Worthington farm was within a tract of 367 acres, which an old recital says was surveyed to Jeremiah Langhorne in 1739, and which was then "believed to be in Hilltown, but appears to be within the township of New Britain," adjoining lands of John Kelly and others. In 1742 the will of Langhorne conveyed it to his two nephews, Lawrence Growden and Langhorne Biles. The southwest portion of this tract was conveyed to William Williams, who bought 188 acres in 1747, forming the later Kratz farm. At the same date, the central portion, comprising 83

acres, was sold to Richard Williams, forming the later Lunn and Jones farm. This would account for 271 acres and leaving 96 acres. It is believed that this northeastern portion was also sold in 1747. According to the boundary of a neighboring property in 1748, we find that William Wilson was the owner. The year previous he had sold a property of 86 acres on Iron Hill, which in later times became the Potts and Evan James farms. He was a Presbyterian and a member of Deep Run. Wilson does not appear to have remained here many years, for in 1758 another boundary mentions Joseph Arthur as the owner. In 1762, Arthur had been succeeded by William Barnhill. The farm comprised 135 acres in Colonial days, with the residence at the Shaffer place. Before the date of 1770, John Williams was the owner. There were two of that name, contemporaries, one living in Hilltown, but near neighbors, and both owning land in New Britain.

A recital of a later deed says that in 1776, John Williams sold 135 acres to his son-in-law, David Worthington. John Williams was a Baptist, and one of the 23 constituent members of New Britain Church at its organization in 1754. He then lived about a mile northeast of that church in what is now Doylestown township. His death took place May 16, 1781, in his 72d year and he was buried in New Britain graveyard with his wife Margaret, who died July 24th, 1791, at the age of 76. These figures indicate that William was born in 1709—certainly not in New Britain and probably not in Pennsylvania. The will of John Williams was witnessed before Robert Shewell by Benjamin Griffith and David Evans. In this document mention is made of his wife Margaret. The daughters were Ann, wife of William Cornell, Mary, wife of Paul McCarty, Sarah, wife of David Worthington, Mary, wife of Morris Eder, Rachel, wife of Abiah James and Hannah, wife of Thomas Jones. A son William is mentioned. According to the tenor of this will it seems not unlikely that John Williams owned two or three farms, and that he died elsewhere. A place of 43 acres was devised to his son-in-law, Christopher Wells, on which his own son William lived. This was to be held in trust for his son Isaac. The widow Margaret received his own plantation of 124 acres, and which, after her death, was devised to his four daughters, Hannah Jones, Sarah Worthington, Mary Eder and Rachel James. In the assessment of 1779 he was credited with 100 acres.

Rachel Williams who married Abiah James, September 22d, 1773, had a daughter Margaret, second wife of Joshua Riale, whose son Abiah J. Riale was very well known in this vicinity thirty years ago, and was steward of the Alms-house from 1850 to 1860. Colonel Nathan James, a militia officer of the war of 1812, and who died in 1836, was of this family, also Benjamin W. James and Elizabeth, wife of William Hines, father of Dr. A. J. Hines, of Doylestown.

The Worthington family were of English origin and quite numerous in some parts of Bucks county, especially in Buckingham. They were not early settlers in New Britain. From whence David Worthington came is unknown to the writer.

He is mentioned in the list of Non-Associators in 1776, as, also, was Jonathan



Both were landholders of 1785, as well as in 1779. Worthington owned at least properties besides the one mentioned. The largest of these was Doylestown, near Pine

now known as the Bergey farm, the two others in New Britain, one on Iron Hill, now the property of Lydia Miller. It was at the latter place that he died in 1829. That he lived to a very great age is indicated by a tradition, that when 94 years of age he rode 40 miles on horse-

back to see Nathan Riale, an acquaintance living in Chester county.

#### The Doylestown Mennonite Church.

We believe that it has not been related by any local historian, that the lot whereon is built the Mennonite Meeting House, a mile northwest of Doylestown, was purchased of David Worthington. This was purchased just previous to the outbreak of the Revolution, or in 1774. The Trustees were Jacob Rhoads and Jacob Haldeeman, of New Britain, Ludwig Switzer, of Warwick, and Jacob Kulp, of Buckingham, who bought seven acres of Worthington. The deed of conveyance was witnessed before Benjamin Mathews, Esq., by Isaac Williams. The seven acres were a piece of the Doyle property. In 1760 John Doyle, then of Soldiers' Delight, Maryland, sold the lot to Jonathan Worthington, with the following boundaries: "Beginning at corner; thence by land of Mahlon Kirkbride (now of Robert Kirkbride) southeast 24 perches; thence southwest by Nathan Preston 49 perches; then by late Edward Doyle (now Edward Preston) northwest 24 perches to line of Richard Riale and Clement Doyle; then by same northeast 49 perches to beginning." The Kirkbride land above mentioned was the present Chapman farm, and Edward Preston's was the present farm of Robert James.

#### The Hill Farm.

In 1812 David Worthington detached 40 acres from the northeast side of his farm to his son-in-law Richard Hill, selling for \$400. This was on the present cross road running to the Stump road, and whereon is a dwelling to the present time. This Hill family probably came from Plumstead. Richard Hill had brothers Abraham and Isaac. The latter was the father of James E. Hill and grandfather of George C. Hill, a well-known business man of Chalfont. Abraham Hill lived to reach eighty-six, and died in 1851. Rebecca, a sister, was the wife of Richard Riale, who owned a farm now partly covered by the houses of Western Doylestown. Richard Hill was deceased before 1859. He had sons Abraham and David. His wife had been Esther Worthington. His executors sold to T. W. Meyers. The transfers since have been: 1864, Meyers to Samuel Nash; 1865, Nash to David S. Scott; 1869, Scott to Tobias Keller, of Bedminster, the present owner.

The will of David Worthington, made in 1829, mentions sons Seth, Amos, Isaac and John and daughters Esther Hill and Margaret. Of these, John received a plantation, whereon he lived, of 80 acres in East Nottingham, Chester county. Isaac received 23 acres, also in Chester county, and another lot of twenty acres in

New Britain. Amos received a plantation where he then lived in Doylestown township, and Margaret a lot of 25 acres on Iron Hill, whereon the testator then lived. Seth got the main plantation, or homestead, of ninety acres.

Seth Worthington married Sarah Good, daughter of Thomas Good. The Worthington ownership of the homestead lasted seventy years, or from 1776 till 1846. At the latter date Seth Worthington conveyed 56 acres and the dwelling to his son-in-law, David Hill. The succeeding transfers have been many: 1856, David Hill to John Detweiler; 1860, Detweiler to John C. Deuschle; 1866, Deuschle to Frederick Schenlie; 1868, Schenlie to Thomas Scott; 1871, Scott to David Heiser; 1871, Heiser to James Rafferty; 1877, Rafferty to John Zimmerman; 1883, Zimmerman to Francis Shafter, whose father of the same name came from Dresden, Saxony, about sixty years ago, and lived and died on the farm now held by his son Samuel, a mile south of Chalfont.

A remaining portion of the old Worthington plantation, comprising 29 acres, now belongs to Michael F. Bishop and lies near the Stump road. A portion was transferred in 1846 by Seth Worthington to his son David. Another portion was sold the same year by him to Conard Datesman. E. M.

From *En. Cr. Press*.....  
*Newtown, Pa.*.....  
 Date, *Feb 20/92*.....

#### AN OLD HOMESTEAD SOLD.

The sale of the Worth Farm, or "Sharon," as it has been always called, divides up one of the largest and most elegant estates in Bucks county. There were 287 acres of it. Two hundred and twenty-seven are now the property of the George School, and 60 acres are retained by Mrs. H. C. Thornton, which includes all buildings. In the fall of 1888 the Society of Friends was looking for a suitable site to locate a school under the will of John M. George for the education of boys and girls. The Newtown Friends determined to secure it in this neighborhood if possible, and proposed to the heirs of James Worth that they agree to sell "Sharon" for that purpose. A price of \$50,000 was agreed upon for the whole farm, but Mrs. Thornton, the only living child of James Worth, refused to agree to the sale unless she could retain 60 acres, including the mansion, barn and tenant house. After much negotiation the farm was accepted by the locating committee as a site for the George School, provided the people of the neighborhood would contribute an amount of money sufficient to purchase 123 acres. Through the untiring energy of Isaac Eyre, the money was contributed, and through the liberality of some other Friends, 104 acres more were donated for the same purpose, and on Saturday, February 13th, \$38,000 was paid for the George School site, and Mrs. Thornton retained her 60 acres at \$12,000.



It may not be uninteresting to recall some of the history of this old estate. It was purchased in 1813 by the late James Worth, who was a hardware merchant of Philadelphia, at a public sale, from the estate of Dr. Tate, who had owned it from Revolutionary times. Tradition has it that when the farm was knocked down by the auctioneer, Mr. Worth took out of his pocket a goose quill, and out of it drew one bill sufficient to pay for the farm, \$20,000. Soon after the purchase Mr. Worth moved from Philadelphia to his farm, and lived there until his death, in 1844. Many of our older residents remember him as a most elegant, courteous gentleman of the old school. He was generous and noble, and lived the life of an ideal country gentleman. He took great interest in agriculture, made many experiments in that line, and wrote and spoke much on those subjects. The old men, who were then boys, remember well the family coach and pair of elegant gray horses in which he used to ride about. From the time of his death until last April the farm belonged during her life to his widow, Margaret Worth. This farm was the dearest place to her on earth. Most of her life was spent there, and though of late years she was absent from it, it was still her home. Her life had covered nearly all this century, and her bright, winning ways were never so happily manifested as when dispensing hospitality at "Sharon."

The old mansion is now being fitted up by Mr. and Mrs. Thornton for their future home. It is a grand old stone house, built in 1804, in the old Colonial style of architecture, situate in a fine grove of forest trees. The house is being modernized, but nothing will be done to destroy its former appearance, and when completed will be one of the finest places in Bucks county, where we hope Mr. Thornton and his family may spend the evening of their lives in well earned repose.

The George School people, we believe, expect to proceed to erect buildings suitable for their purposes. It is supposed they will spend about \$300,000 in buildings, and beautify the wood land and meadows, so as to make it a most beautiful place. No place has more natural advantages—about 100 acres of wood land, a creek skirting one side and a beautiful building site. Let us hope we may have an institution in which we can all take pride.

John Marsteller, aged 60 years, a retired farmer, living in Richlandtown borough, committed suicide on Tuesday afternoon, by shooting himself through the heart with a shot gun. During the day his family went away from home to attend a funeral, he refusing to go with them. When they came back and did not see him about the house, they instituted a search and found him in the wagon shed dead.

From Democrat  
West Chester Pa.  
Date Mar 3 /92

**THE OLDEST BUILDING IN BUCKS COUNTY.**—The stone farm house occupied by William S. Hoagland, in Southampton township, Bucks county, Pa., is said to be the oldest building in Bucks, and is known to have been 102 years ago. The walls are two feet thick and the chimneys are of great size and lead up from open fireplaces that are as large as an ordinary hotel bedroom of the size known as "singles." The woodwork on the farm house is in an admirable state of preservation and the doorknobs of wrought iron in the shape of triangles are both curious and artistic. The house stands on the crest of a gentle slope on one side of a pretty little valley and is locally famous as one of the sights of the county.

From Intelligencer  
Doylestown Pa.  
Date. Mar. 17/92

#### THE SNODGRASS FARM AND FAMILY.

An Old and Well-Known Family in Doylestown Township—A Once Famous Orchard.

This is an old and well-known homestead situated just opposite the north entrance of the Exhibition grounds. The old stone barn is a prominent building by the roadside, whilst the two-story frame house stands in the rear, overlooking meadow lands to the northward. The orchard by the roadside has been a famous one in its prime, the trees continuing for a long time to be prolific bearers. The farm adjoins the Doylestown borough line on the west, and within not many years has been diminished in size by the detachment of lots along the Limekiln road. The general slope of the surface is towards the northwest, and on that side the boundry is, or was, a continuation of that of the Smith farm. The premises were known as the Snodgrass farm for many years, but were not the original homestead of that family. It is now the property of Oliver Gilbert, who removed hither from Hilltown, but in early life was a resident of Solebury.



as part of the old Dungan property and part of the 300 acres bought by William Dungan, in 1733, of Langhorne. Its early history is similar to that of the Harvey and Fordhook farms, already related. It formed the northeast end of the original Dungan plantation.

A dwelling and other buildings were probably erected here in 1761 or soon after when the second William Dungan received 100 acres here from his father, including land where is now the Exhibition building, and lots now covered with houses, between the two State roads. Here are the boundaries of 1761: "Beginning in line of Doyle's land, thence by same northwest 170 perches; then by line of Isaac Evans and Joseph Barton southwest 95 perches; then by land of William Dungan southeast 167 perches; then northeast by line of Benjamin Snodgrass and William Dungan 95 perches to beginning." This was witnessed before Simon Butler, by William Davies and William Doyle. Only \$30 were paid for the 100 acres—indicating no buildings.

William Dungan, 2d, was deceased before 1793, and his son John was his heir. In that year, his son John Dungan, Jr., became the owner by a deed of partition with his brother Thomas, who took another farm adjoining on the northeast. The death of the second John Dungan occurred in 1822, in his 71st year. The sheriff, George Burgess, seized the property in 1820 and sold it to David Dungan, brother of John, whose death occurred in 1823. Meanwhile David Dungan had conveyed to Timothy Smith in 1820, and then the Dungan ownership ended after lasting for 87 years. It belonged to the Smiths for more than a quarter of a century. In 1846 Jervis D. Smith and Robert Williams, executors of Timothy Smith, sold to James Snodgrass 67 acres, the portion on the southeast side of the highway having been detached.

#### THE SNODGRASS FAMILY.

As related in Davis' history of the county, Benjamin Snodgrass was the ancestor of those bearing the name in the county, and he came from Ireland to America before 1730. During a long voyage his family perished from hunger, except himself and daughter Mary. He married Jane Borland, a widow, and had five children. These were Benjamin, Jr., born in 1731; James in 1734, Rebecca, Martha and Jane. The first Benjamin Snodgrass died in 1778, and his farm was sold by his executors in 1779. His daughters became Rebecca Watson, Margaret Law and Jane Harvey. The third Benjamin Snodgrass was a soldier of the Revolution, was at the battle of Trenton, and was unmarried. James Snodgrass, the third in descent, was the owner of the farm under consideration. He was born October 21st, 1780; married Mary McKinsty, and died in Doylestown, April, 1870, in his ninetyeth year. The family has many connections in this county bearing other names.

The transfers since the death of Jane Snodgrass have been: 1878, to Albert S. Vail; 1882, Vail to Rev. Henry Stommel, of the Doylestown Catholic Church; 1884, Stommel to John Stephens; 1886, executors of Stephens to Oliver Gilbert.

E. M.

From Intelligence  
Doylestown Pa.  
Date. Mar. 14/92

#### LOCAL HISTORY.

##### The Dungan Family and Lands—Rev. Thomas Dungan—The Harvey Farm—The Encampment of 1843—The Crystal Palace

The old Harvey farm is situated just beyond the southwestern limits of the borough of Doylestown, and lying on both sides of the great road running to New Britain and Chalfont. Here are modern farm buildings on the easterly side of the highway, and a tenant house and spring house opposite. The Exhibition Grounds have for a quarter of a century separated the farm from Doylestown, and a portion of which were taken from these premises. The surface mostly slopes towards the northwest, the upper portion within the valley of Cook's Run being low and meadow-like, and which is varied by a bit of forest. The buildings are on the higher grounds along which the highway sought a firmer surface. The present barn succeeded a fine structure erected during the ownership of Edward Yost, but which was destroyed by fire. The present owner is John Y. Smith, who has much improved the property within the past ten years. It was the Harvey farm for more than half a century.

#### THE ENCAMPMENT.

On this farm was the scene of the military encampment of 1843. This occupied the high field, fronting the highway, southwest of the dwelling. It was an open field then and such it remains to the present day. There was a great assemblage of people, who came to see the soldiers on those August days of nearly fifty years ago. The dimmest of childish recollections recall the hubbub of the assembled multitude, the shoutings of the captains, the blasts of trumpets, the tinsel glory of the drum majors, the prancing of the war horses, the roar of the artillery, the inspiring strains of martial music—even the carousals by the road side—the flying horses of those days. It was called Camp Jackson and consisted of about seven hundred troops of this and adjoining counties, commanded by Major-General John Davis.

#### THE DUNGAN FAMILY.

The Dungan family is one of the oldest in the State of Pennsylvania. The earlier members, like a considerable number of other Bucks county families, came from New England, although the Dungans were more remotely of Irish origin. In Davis' history of Bucks county we are told that William Dungan, the eldest son of Rev. Thomas Dungan, came in ad-



vance, and was granted two hundred acres in Bristol in 1682. Before that time he had rented land. His father, Thomas, came from Rhode Island in 1684, and with a colony of Welsh Baptists formed a little church at Cold Spring--the oldest Baptist Church in Pennsylvania. He died in 1688, and his remains now lie at Southampton, to which vicinity many of the Dungans removed. The preacher had five sons and three daughters. The names of the former were William, Thomas, Clement, Jeremiah and John. The eldest brought his wife, whose name was Wing, from Rhode Island. The others married into the Drake, West, Richards, Doyle and Carrell families. The names Clement, Jeremiah and Thomas continued to be favorite names in the family for generations afterwards. They are supposed to have left Bristol for Northampton about 1698. It was the next generation that came to New Britain and Warwick. The Northampton Dungans have continued in that region to the present time. Among the most distinguished of these was Joshua Dungan, who was thought capable of filling a State office and was therefore the Whig candidate for Canal Commissioner in 1849.

Many persons will remember Rev. David Spencer, at one time pastor of the Point Pleasant Church. During the trying days of the Civil War his eloquent voice pleaded earnestly for the needs of the soldiers in the Southern camps. Later he published a series of articles on "The early Baptists of Philadelphia." In these, Thomas Dungan is mentioned as one of the intimate friends of William Penn, partly because Admiral Penn, father of the great Quaker, was himself a Baptist. In enacting laws for the government of Pennsylvania, Penn recognized the rights for which the Baptists had so earnestly contended, and which had already been incorporated by Roger Williams, in the statutes of Rhode Island. Rev. Mr. Dungan was born in Ireland. Owing to the bitter hostility to the Baptists, under the reign of Charles II, he came to America only to find the same spirit of persecution. Coming thence to Pennsylvania his settlement at Cold Spring was not accidental. Here is a most remarkable spring, throwing out a steady stream of clear, cold water, whose temperature is the same the whole year round. It is thought by some to possess qualities of great medical value. Tradition tells us that Indians were wont to assemble about it twice a year, and bring their sick to enjoy its healing qualities. At the change of seasons, the time of their semi-annual gatherings, a mist would form over the spring, which, to the Indian fancy, assumed the shape of a spirit, whose good will they desired to enjoy. In selling their lands to William Penn, when speaking of their value, it is not impossible they spoke of this spring, located in a most beautiful spot on the banks of the Delaware. So when Dungan came to purchase land, desiring a quiet spot, where he could end his days peacefully, Penn, from the love he bore the Baptists, and for his sympathy for those who had come out of terrible persecutions, offered him this celebrated place. With the church at Cold Spring, it is supposed that the father of the celebrated Benjamin Rush was associated. He was buried in the graveyard adjoining the church.

Morgan Edwards, writing in 1770, says that then the descendants of Thomas Dungan numbered six or seven hundred people. It can well be imagined that this has been immensely increased at the present time. He says that Dungan must have been a man far advanced in years, as the minutes of the Lower Dublin Church, in speaking of him baptising Elias Keach, called him "an ancient disciple and teacher among the Baptists."

Three sons of Thomas Dungan emigrated from Bristol to Southampton, and we find among a list of settlers there in 1709, the names of Jeremiah, Clement and Thomas. Afterwards several of the Dungan family obtained possession of extensive tracts of land immediately west and southwest of Doylestown, along the two State roads and in Warwick and New Britain. They were intimately connected with the Doyles by marriage, living neighbors, and the first names common in the two families were the same.

#### THE PURCHASE IN NEW BRITAIN.

The first purchase of land in New Britain by the Dungans was made in 1733, when William Dungan bought 300 acres of Jeremiah Langborn. This, of course, was part of the 5200 acres of society land bought by him in 1724. The three hundred acres included the three present farms of J. G. Smith, Oliver Gilbert and the Fordhook or old Murray farm, besides some small lots and probably the Exhibition Grounds. It comprised a tract extending from the Doylestown borough line westward to the hamlet of Vauxtown, or the Turk road, and was about a half a mile in width. With our present knowledge it would be only conjecture to state where William Dungan lived and where he first made improvements, though the Harvey farm was the most central. At a later period,

1753, he bought a small farm of thirty acres in Warwick, of William Scott, or on the lower side of the lower State road, and on which was his home at the time of his death. He bought also another farm in Warwick of John Crawford. William Dungan was one of the twenty-three constituent members of New Britain Church in 1754, and in Morgan Edwards' list of the members in 1770 his name also appears, along with that of his wife, Catharine.

The death of William Dungan took place in May, 1771, thirty-eight years after his coming to New Britain. His will was registered on the 6th of June of that year. In this document mention is made of his wife Catharine to whom he gave a lot of seven acres. To his son Nathan was given the farm he had bought of John Crawford. To his son John the farm whereon the said John then lived (the present Smith farm). His son William received only twenty shillings, he having already received the Fordhook farm and the Snodgrass farm. There were other sons, Joseph, Jeremiah and Joshua, and a granddaughter Rachel Eaton. Isaac Hill and Thomas Barton were his executors. The daughters were Mary Shaw, Ann Stephens and Elizabeth Hill. Among those who took the oath of allegiance June 27th, 1777, before John Davis were Joseph, Nathan and William Dungan, three of the sons of the first William Dungan. In the New Britain assessment of 1779 we find John Dungan credited with 127 acres and William Dun-



his brother, with 350. The name of an is also on the list, but no land n. In 1785 we have record that John gan emancipated a slave named liam Jackson on the 17th of August. John Dungan, the second owner of the Harvey farm, was born in 1731, and died on the 2d of April, 1801, at the age of seventy. He and his wife Ann, who survived him three years, were buried at New Britain, on the south slope of the hillside graveyard, where many others of the name were buried. His daughter Sarah became the wife of Nathan James, of New Britain, a soldier of the Revolution who survived to reach the great age of ninety-one in 1845. Most people remember John Dungan James, the son of this Sarah Dungan, the veteran court crier of former days, and whose descendants are well known citizens of Doylestown at the present time. He died in 1875 in his 89th year.

There were several other children of John Dungan—Thomas, John, David, and we believe Joseph. The latter was born in 1862, and in the years succeeding the Revolution he became a school teacher in the days when teachers were scarce and education at a low ebb. He taught about 1790, within the house of his future father-in-law, Benjamin Mathews, the Justice, and afterwards married Rachel, his daughter. His son Charles became a Philadelphia merchant. His own death occurred in 1797, and his widow married Isaac Morris, and afterwards kept a store at Line Lexington.

John Dungan died intestate, leaving a farm of 119 acres. His administrators were Nathan James and Abel Morris. In 1805, they sold 92 acres to Joshua Riale. The son-in-law, Nathan James, sold the same to Enoch Harvey in 1810.

#### THE HARVEY FAMILY.

The Harvey family have long been residents of Doylestown and vicinity. Enoch Harvey, born December 1st, 1769, was the grandson of Thomas Harvey, who settled in Upper Makefield in 1750. His two sons were Joseph and Mathew, and Enoch was one of the six children of the former. He married a daughter of Charles Stewart, of Warwick. He was a dealer and speculator in lands, owning many farms in New Britain and Warwick for a longer or shorter period. He kept the Fountain House, and died there in 1831 at the age of sixty-two.

The Smith farm was retained by Enoch Harvey his lifetime, and conveyed by will to his son Joseph. The latter was the owner at the time of the Jackson Encampment, and altogether for twenty-five years, a portion of the time rented. In 1856 Harvey sold 118 acres to C. M. Baynton, an Englishman. Then came Charles Burroughs Johnson in 1859. The latter was the owner for a long time. In 1878 Johnson sold 114 acres to Edward Yost, the former steward at the almshouse, comprising 78 acres bought of Baynton, in 1859, and 42 acres bought of Bernard Rehil, in 1868, at the west end. Finally, in 1880, Yost conveyed to John Y. Smith, the present owner.

#### "THE CRYSTAL PALACE."

At the western corner of the Smith place, near Fitzinger's hill and on the northwest side of the highway, stood an old log house with an outside chimney. It was demolished many years ago, and

now only a tall cedar remains to show where it stood. A young orchard in fruit has grown to maturity since the house was standing. In the field alongside was seen the first mowing machine in operation in this vicinity in June, 1853, driven by C. B. Johnson. Half a century or less ago the house was occupied, but in the early "fifties" it was a resort at night for the wild lads and lasses of Doylestown, who dubbed it the "Crystal Palace," and were wont to dance there till the small hours of the morning. The participants, if living, are old men and women now. It was about the time when the World's Fair was held in the famous Crystal Palace of New York.

It is not known when the old house was built, but the 24 acres lying on both sides of the road were detached in 1800 by John Dungan to his mother Alice Dungan, widow of William Dungan. The house was in existence then, and the property was then sold for £250. It continued a separate property until reunited in 1868, when Bernard Rehil sold the 24 acres to C. B. Johnson.

E. M.

*From Kelly's Intelligencer  
Doylestown Pa.  
Date April 7/92*

#### LOCAL HISTORY.

**The Doyles—The Naming of Doylestown**  
—William Doyle, the Tavern Keeper—  
—Edward Doyle and His  
Plantation—The Riales.

Considerable mention has been made of the Doyles by local historians, since their lands were within and near the present borough of Doylestown. Although no more worthy than many other settlers of Bucks, it was their good fortune to give name to its county seat. In this manner the name of Doyle will here be perpetuated for centuries to come by that of the expanding town, which has covered the hilltop and will abound more and more with happy homes, busy industries, schools, newspapers, churches, and all the appliances and conveniences of modern life, as it spreads over the surrounding slopes during the long generations of the future.

There were three of the name of Doyle, who came to this vicinity about the same time, Edward, Clement and William. In the opinion of the writer these were brothers, through this is not certain. Although Edward first purchased land, the town of Doylestown was named from the tavern of William Doyle. Around it on the cross-roads at Main and State streets, grew up a village, and this was called Doyle-town—as the people of a former generation used to pronounce it. This William Doyle owned 100 acres in New Britain bought of Kirkbride in 1736



and 28 acres more bought of Isabella Crawford in 1752. He opened a tavern here in 1745, which he kept till the time of the Revolution, selling out to Daniel Hough in 1775, and removing to Plumstead, died there the next year. The story of William Doyle and his tavern, however, does not immediately concern us in this connection, as his public house was in Warwick and not in New Britain.

The lands of Edward Doyle, however, were in New Britain. His first purchase of 150 acres was made March 23d, 1730, of Joseph Kirkbride. It was a long narrow tract, a mile in length, but less than a quarter in breadth. Standing on West Court street, and looking directly northwest a mile down the slope of Cook's Run valley, and thence up the further rise to the second cross-roads, and we have the length. Then the width was from Hamilton street, near the Methodist Church, to the western boundary line of the borough. It will be seen that the southeast end was within the present borough, and the remainder in the township. It comprised the former and present farms of Richard and Isaac Riale, Rachel White and Samuel Hickman, together with some small lots. The boundaries of the tract was: "Beginning at corner of late Jeremiah Langhorne; then northwest 320 perches; then northeast by late Joseph Kirkbride 75 perches; thence southeast by Joseph Kirkbride 320 perches; thence southwest 75 perches to beginning." Edward Doyle bought other lands, another narrow piece of 42 acres in 1737, now contained in the Armstrong farm of which more hereafter.

It has not been stated where was the dwelling of Edward Doyle. Circumstantial evidence, however, points unmistakably to the site of the old Riale house, latterly the Biglan property. Here, at a short distance north, was a splendid spring such as would charm an early settler. The old stone house yet standing has the appearance of those built eighty or ninety years ago, and therefore not the house in which Doyle lived. This house has been enlarged and improved since the Riale ownership. Formerly there were two strips of woodland on this farm, one through which the rivulet from the spring flowed, and the other bordering the Limekiln, or Hilltown road.

We know little or nothing concerning the personality of Edward Doyle, but it is evident that he was not prosperous. The reason we can only guess. In 1748 he mortgaged his plantation to Thomas Watson, of Buckingham, for £60. This was not satisfied till after his death, the 27th of August, 1772, when Jonathan Fell, the assignee of Watson, acknowledged to have received payment from his sons, William and Edward Doyle, Jr. The misfortune was postponed till after the death of the elder Doyle. It came on June 12th, 1771, when Sheriff Joseph Elliott seized the property, just 150 acres, and sold it to William Dungan.

#### THE WILL OF EDWARD DOYLE.

The will of Edward Doyle was made on the 9th of September, 1763, or nearly seven years before his death. It was witnessed by George Fell and Titus Fell. In this document mention was made of his wife Mary, who was to receive all the profits of the land during her life, and which was then to be sold. The

money resulting was to be divided among the four children, William, Jeremiah, Edward and Rebecca Freeman. To a granddaughter, Elizabeth, were given clothes and furniture "that belonged to my daughter Elizabeth Rees." To his grandson, Isaac Rees, his gun. Furthermore, the will goes on to say, "Whereas, I gave to my son, Edward Doyle, a certain piece or tract of land adjoining and being part of the tract which I now live on, and it is mortgaged for £60 along with the residue of the remaining tract. My will is that the said Edward shall pay off the aforesaid mortgage and clear the rest of the land from the incumbrance, so that he will have a just title; otherwise I leave the rest of the plantation to be sold as I shall direct."

William and Edward Doyle were made the executors.

This will of Edward Doyle was not registered till March 14, 1770, so that we may suppose that his death took place in February of that year, or about forty years after his purchase of the farm. Of the sons of Edward Doyle we have trace only of William and Edward. The latter kept tavern in the Northern Liberties, Philadelphia, in 1766, at which time he yet held twenty-five acres in New Britain (part of the present Armstrong place) which he mortgaged. None of the name of Doyle in New Britain are mentioned as taking the oath of allegiance in 1777, and in the list of taxables for 1779 we have only William Doyle, a landless shoemaker. An Edward Doyle died in Philadelphia in 1827, probably the one above mentioned, at which date he would have been an aged man.

It has been asserted that Edward Doyle was the father of William Doyle, the tavern keeper, and not his brother. We doubt this statement which rests upon the wording of an old deed. Edward Doyle had a son William as mentioned in his will. He was living in 1779, a shoemaker, when all agree that William Doyle, the tavern keeper, was deceased three years before in Plumstead. This seems to be conclusive. Edward, Clement and William Doyle came to this vicinity at nearly the same time and their purchase of land was not far separated. They were contemporaries for more than forty years, and, the time of their deaths not far apart.

The Dungan ownership of the Doyle farm continued during the Revolutionary period, and down to 1805—a period of 34 years. Thomas Dungan, son of William, received 100 acres of the plantation in 1793, as his share of his father's lands. This was the later White and Riale farms; the Hickman farm being detached, or retained. The boundary given in 1793, has a line of 85 perches along the Warwick line, beyond which were lands of Samuel Flack and other Dungan lands; on the southwest side the line was 195 perches, bounded by John Dungan and Samuel Flack; on the northwest by the remaining fifty acres, 80 perches; on the northeast by John Shaw, 195 perches. Twelve years later, 1805, Thomas Dungan, Anna Dungan and James Watson sold to John Riale, who immediately conveyed to his father-in-law, David Evans. Thomas Dungan died in 1806, at the early age of 45.

#### THE RIALES.

In a former sketch, written some years ago, the writer has given an account of



the Riale family, Richard Riale, who owned this property so many years, was the fourth in descent from John Riale, an Englishman, who bought his land in New Britain in 1730. He was a Baptist, and his tombstone is the oldest with a legible inscription in New Britain grave yard. This tells of his death on the 14th of August, 1742, at the age of sixty. The name is unique and very unusual in this country. It is not known that there is any other family with a like name in Pennsylvania. There are plenty of Riles and Rileys, but the spelling of "Riale" was the same in 1730 as it is now. The pronunciation formerly was in two syllables "Ri-ley," as is also the spelling in some old deeds. It is only recently that the current pronunciation has again conformed to the spelling.

John Riale, a grandson of the first John Riale, was a prominent man in the township, and a Justice of the Peace. He married Susannah, daughter of David Evans. In 1824, Richard, his son, received these 100 acres by will of his maternal grandfather. Thenceforth the Riale family held possession for 43 years. In fact, the upper portion, is yet the property of Rachel White, a daughter of Richard Riale, now an aged lady till lately resident of Doylestown. The lower farm was occupied by Isaac H. Riale from 1843 till 1897.

During this period the fields near the town were the favorite places where showmen and travelling circuses were wont to pitch their tents. In a big tent here in the summer of 1854, was delivered a series of addresses advocating a prohibitory law, by William VanWagner. The latter was from one of the Hudson river counties of New York. The project of making such a change in our liquor laws was here first presented to the people of this vicinity. Maine had a few years before adopted the plan, and it was being zealously urged in other States. VanWagner was a logical, entertaining and powerful speaker, listening crowds being entranced by his oratory. His arguments converted a large proportion of this community to his views, and were instrumental in procuring a heavy vote in behalf of prohibition in October, 1854. It is said that he himself, afterwards became a castaway, and fell a victim to the evil he had so freely denounced.

Richard Riale removed to a lot on the Hilltown road where he died July 19, 1866, in his eightieth year. His son Isaac H. Riale, who had lived here his previous lifetime sold the property to Dr. Francis Bigony in 1867, and removed to Buckingham. Bigony proceeded to divide the fields adjoining the town into lots, which were sold and built upon. Since then, this portion has been intersected with streets, and now forms part of the built-up portions of Doylestown.

#### THE HICKMAN FARM.

This was the northwest extremity of the Doyle plantation. It remained in the hands of the Dungans after the sale of the larger portion to John Riale, 1805. The farm comprises fifty-two acres, lying in the west slope of the Cook's Run valley, with a depression made by a meadow rivulet in front of the buildings. It has been for many years in the tenure of Thomas McEwell. Here is a large stone house fronted with evergreen and there

has probably been a house here nearly all the present century. The ruins of an old spring house remain to the eastward of the dwelling.

This farm has had many owners since the time of the DoYLES and the DUNGANS. It comprised the upper third of the plantation of Edward Doyle, and became the property of John Dungan, a grandson of

William Dungan, who had bought it at sheriff's sale in 1771. In 1809, the second John Dungan sold it to Jacob Yothers. The latter had a son of the same name, who received it in 1814. The Yothers family were Menionites, and the elder Yothers had held the present farm of Newton Meyers for many years. Some of his descendants reside in the vicinity to the present day. It was the Yothers place for upwards of thirty years. In 1845 the administrators of the second Jacob Yothers sold to Isaac Oakford. The latter was a very worthy man, a deacon of New Britain Church, and afterwards removed to Illinois. His remains repose in a little grave yard near Princeton, in that State. Oakford sold to John Large in 1849. The transfers since then have been: 1868, Large to John B. Rodroek; 1873, Rodroek to Michael R. Ott; 1878, Administrators of Ott to Samuel G. Hickman, who came from Chester county.

#### DESCENDANTS OF THE DOYLES.

The Doyle brothers left a considerable number of descendants, the most of whom are probably living elsewhere. Of these mention must be made of Jonathan Doyle, son of William Doyle, the tavern keeper. He was born in 1762. He was a stone mason, owned land along the Cook's Run valley, and afterwards at the hamlet called Vauxtown, a mile west of Doylestown. His wife was Mary Stephens. He built a grist and carding mill, afterwards known as Histand's. His children were three: William, Thomas and Eliza. Of these William married Eliza Hough, and Thomas to Fanny Tucker. Jonathan Doyle died at the age of eighty-one, in 1843. There was another Jonathan Doyle, a son of Clement, who lived a mile northwest of Doylestown. He was much older than his cousin, being born as early as 1745. He married Ann Mathews, sister of Benjamin Mathews, the justice, on the 11th of January, 1769. The names of four children are known as Delinda, Dinah, Jonathan and John. The family removed either to the Buffalo Valley or the region along the Juniatta.

#### The German Population of Bucks County.

PREPARED EXPRESSLY FOR THE DOYLESTOWN DEMOCRAT.

While in Philadelphia recently at a private gathering, the subject of the power and influence of the German element of Pennsylvania became a matter of conversation. The party did not exceed a dozen, and in their descent nearly divided between the English and German. One of the number stated that he believed that the latter now considerably outnumbered the former in this State. Although this has been my opinion for some time, I was still surprised that it should be conceded by all present. Without any desire to arouse prejudice or give undue prominence to what is not deserving, I stated that in all my readings, I had no recollection of this admission having ever been made in print, and for this reason.



would now venture still further and say from the knowledge I possessed, that I sincerely believed that Bucks county, though regarded outside of its own limits as one of the English counties of Pennsylvania, that even there the German element was the strongest, and that facts could be arrived at to establish it. As the writer was the only one of the party from that county, as I expected, this created manifest surprise and doubt in the majority. I mention this to show how I came to have my attention called to this subject.

Knowing that the editor of the DEMOCRAT has in preparation a history of the county, which we hope may soon be forthcoming, and believing also from the turn of his mind for inquiry as well as of many of his subscribers, I have been induced to prepare a brief paper on this subject, only regretting that from the materials at my command have so little leisure to give it that thorough and careful investigation which I feel right it should have. Crude or hastily prepared as I know it is, I am inclined to believe that a number will be found to acquiesce in the deductions arrived at, on a matter so new and presumed to be attended with difficulties. However, I will take courage unto myself in this investigation, and if anything will turn up to deserve attention as to the correctness of my conclusions, may try my hand again in a different mode of arriving at statistics from what I have now adopted and supposed amongst the best to arrive at the truth. Believing if they fail, that they at least, certainly deserve some consideration for the claims set forth.

In the DEMOCRAT of March 23d, last, appeared an official list of all the teachers employed in the schools of the county, numbering as there reported, 270.—With some assistance I have carefully gone over it, to ascertain through a knowledge of the surnames, the probable descent of those mentioned therein, and make out that about 118 are of German, 106 English, 23 Irish, Scotch and Welsh, and of Holland, French and Swedish, about a similar number. Now, if the aforesaid is any ways correct, it proves that those of German descent are not only the strongest, but possessed of more intelligence than has been generally allowed them. The aforesaid places those of Irish, Scotch and Welsh origin considerably less than I had expected, being but one-twelfth of the whole. An examination of said list is invited whether it has done them justice.

In the census, as published for 1870, mention is made that in this county for that year, 109 edifices were used as places of worship. The two highest denominations set down are almost exclusively German, and have together, not lacking eight to have half of the entire number, namely: the Lutherans, twenty three, and the German Reformed seventeen. The Mennonites are another numerous body, but to my regret the census does not mention the number of their meeting houses. The Catholics are represented as having four churches, two of which may be allowed the Germans. The only two sects in the county that may be set down as chiefly English, are the Episcopalians and Friends. To the former is given eight places of worship, but no mention of the latter.

The Methodists are the third in number, having sixteen, of which several can be set down to the Germans. The Baptists have fifteen, of whose membership, perhaps over one-third are of Welsh descent. The Presbyterians have thirteen houses of worship, the membership of which is strongly of Irish and Scotch descent. By the aforesaid it will obviously appear that those of German descent also hold the greatest number of places of worship in the county, and that they must compare favorably in their religious efforts.

For their education as well as instruction in Christianity, the Germans had a number of schools successfully established amongst the Indians, and spelling books, hymns and sermons translated into their language; copies of which the writer has frequently examined. I have no knowledge with all their wealth, strength and power that the English in Pennsylvania have ever done anything of the kind, and, must therefore, in the opinion of the enlightened and unprejudicial reflect no honor on the Proprietary Family with their powerful sway for nearly a century.

The spread of the Germans southwards over the county, and the changes effected thereby, is another remarkable matter. Even fifty years ago, there was still a considerable body of English and Irish settlers living along the Durham road, beginning at Pipersville and extending up into Durham. These have nearly all disappeared and the Germans occupy their places. In Tinicum, particularly in and around Erwinna, and what was Smithtown, the same process has been going on. Doylestown and all the surrounding townships are becoming more and more German. Not long since a descendant of an old Welsh family in New Britain informed me of the great change in this respect that has taken place in that and the adjoining townships only within his recollection. But it is not deemed necessary here to dwell further on this fact, than to say that the writer believes that the chief cause for this change lies in the greater attachment the German has for the cultivation of the soil and the too prevailing desire on the part of others to relinquish farming for business in the towns and cities. One fact is proven by this, that in perseverance and energy the German descendant, and I might include too his wife and daughters, are the equals if not the superiors, of the others he has come in contact with. If slow, he is sure and progressive, *never going backwards.*

German emigration here commenced in October, 1683, not a year after the arrival of William Penn, which was encouraged by him, and whose language he could speak. After his death a different policy commenced. The Proprietary ring, in which James Logan and William Allen figured conspicuously, conceived the idea with the first commencement of Indian troubles about 1727, to have the Germans settle as much as possible on the frontiers as a cordon for additional security to themselves. Thus greatly endangering their lives and property without fully realizing it until Indian vengeance broke loose in 1754 and almost continued unremittingly until 1765, and in which an innocent and unoffending people had to suffer terribly for the sins of others; the exasperat-



ins, in their ignorance, not being well able to discriminate the difference between a German and an English or Scotch-Irishman. But the ill-treated Germans certainly deserve great credit for the peaceable relations they assumed in the trying ordeal, as for instance the Moravians, and for which no just credit has been yet accorded by any of our English historians as I am aware. I may here remark that the correspondence of James Logan, William Allen, James Hamilton, Richard Peters, and others in the Proprietary interests, go to show the most unfounded prejudices entertained against the Germans, and did they now live, would see their utter absurdity, and also expose the means used to keep down their influences or rights justly due. Neither has yet full justice been done to the invaluable services rendered by Conrad Weiser, in his efforts at preserving amicable relations between the Province and the natives.

From the beginning of their arrival, the Germans have had amongst them able scholars, and it was owing in part to their intelligence that the first bible printed in European language was in German at Germantown by Christian Sour in 1743, another edition in 1745; also in 1755 and 1760. He actually printed two editions in the year 1763, and a number afterwards. I cannot find that any bible was printed earlier in the English language anywhere in New England than in 1791, which was by Isaiah Thomas at Worcester, though many editions and by various publishers had been printed some time previous in Pennsylvania. <sup>printed in 1730</sup> Neither is it generally known that the first Sabbath school established in America was by the Germans at Ephrata, in 1740. Whoever will glance over the lists of the active members of the various literary and scientific institutions of Philadelphia at this time must be struck at the prevalence of German names amongst them. Abraham H. Cassel, near Harleysville, Montgomery county, has collected a library of several thousand volumes of German works published in Pennsylvania since its early settlement. In literary activity and ability for their numbers, I doubt if any denomination anywhere can approach the Moravians. In this connection I may mention that as early as 1818, Charles Fortman, a teacher from Germany, successfully formed and taught a class on the piano amongst the German farmers of Nockamixon, and I know of one or two of his pupils still living in that section.

Though the English language is prevailing, English influence is fast declining, and the haughty Anglo-Saxon blood getting more and more diluted. Down to the Revolution English emigration was encouraged, but since, owing to their inveterate hostility to our institutions and people, it has been very small; on the contrary with the Germans and Irish it has greatly increased. The latter have thereby diminished their population to nearly one half, while the Germans have still fully fifty millions of the best educated people in the world to draw on. A late writer in *Harper's Magazine*, in speaking of the German influx of the Mississippi valley said that it would not be long before they would be the dominant element there, he might as well have admitted of the Union. The German element is changing the national character,

as we see in the observances of Christmas, New Year's, Good Friday, Easter, and in birthday, silver and golden wedding festivals, &c. Perhaps it is also owing to the German infusion that the rigid Puritan stock is relaxing, as may be now seen in building Gothic edifices for worship, called chapels, with pictorial stained glass windows, in which the pompous organ sends forth its stirring peals. Wm. J. Burkh

*From, Intelligencer  
Doylestown Pa.  
Date. July 20/-92*

#### BUCKS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

The Summer Meeting Held at Pipersville on  
Tuesday—Interesting Papers Read.

The summer meeting of the Bucks County Historical Society was held on July 19th, at the Pipersville chapel, Bedminster township. The locality is one rich in history and an appropriate place for a meeting of the society. There was not a large attendance at the opening of the morning session, but additions arrived during the session, and there were probably sixty to seventy persons present before the close of the day. There were several citizens of the locality in attendance to kindly welcome the society, which was represented by members from Doylestown, Durham, Hartsville and elsewhere.

The meeting was called to order shortly after 11 o'clock, by Dr. Brumbaugh, of the local committee. After singing by the audience the doctor introduced C. M. Myers, of Pipersville, who delivered a brief address of welcome. Mr. Myers on behalf of himself and his neighbors bade the society a cordial welcome to Pipersville and to the homes of its citizens—the freedom of the place and the possessions of the inhabitants were freely tendered, in accordance with the well-known hospitality of Bedminster's solid and generous traditions and customs. One of the historical circumstances directly connected with the village is the fact that the noted and notorious Indian Walk, of over a century and a half ago, wherein Edward Marshall, by reason of his long legs and superior agility, converted from the Red Men to the white brothers, a large slice of Eastern Pennsylvania, passed directly along near the chapel where the meeting was held. Mr. Myers closed by expressing a hope that the meeting might be profitable and pleasant and a pleasure to the society as it was felt to be a compliment by the community.

After singing by a local choir General Davis, president of the Historical Society, assumed the chair and opened the regular programme of the day. General Davis fittingly responded to the warm welcome of Mr. Myers, expressing the thanks of the society for their kindly reception, and referred briefly to the work which the society is engaged in and the progress it has made in its brief existence.



Charles Laubach, of Durham, was then introduced and read a paper entitled "Prehistoric Man in Northern Bucks County." Mr. Laubach's paper will be published hereafter in the INTELLIGENCER, so a discussion of it is omitted here. Some of the stone implements, exhibited by Mr. Laubach and explained by him as proofs and comparisons of some points of his paper, were extremely fine and very interesting.

"A Sketch of Edward Heston," in 1824 a resident of Hestonville, Philadelphia county, furnished by Mathias H. Hall, of Wrightstown, was then read by the secretary, after which President Davis declared an adjournment until 1.30 p. m.

During the noon recess the society and many guests were most acceptably and hospitably entertained at the house of Reed Loux, almost opposite the chapel, where a lunch was spread whose generous abundance was only equaled by the hearty welcome of the host and his family.

On reassembling for the afternoon session General Davis introduced Rev. D. K. Turner, of Hartsville, who read a paper entitled "The Claim of Connecticut to Wyoming." The paper was an exhaustive examination into the claims and facts in the claim of the Nutmeg State to the Wyoming Valley. The paper will be presented at an early day to the readers of the INTELLIGENCER, hence we present no abstract of it at this time.

Henry C. Mercer, of Doylestown, read a paper "Tamenend's Grave." Mr. Mercer has given much work and attention to the location of the grave of the Indian chief, on the Neshaminy, at Prospect Hill. While himself dissatisfied with the thoroughness of his researches, and desirous of still pursuing several lines of investigation, Mr. Mercer gave the society the results of his investigations down to the present time. The paper will be printed in the INTELLIGENCER in the near future.

Following Mr. Mercer's paper Secretary Paschall read a brief memorial of the late Richard Watson, for several years a member of the Bucks County Historical Society. It alluded entirely to his connection with historical affairs as follows:

In the death of Richard Watson, which occurred suddenly, while on a trip to Philadelphia, on Friday, July 15th, 1892, the Bucks County Historical Society loses an eminent and highly gifted member.

It is neither necessary nor appropriate at this time to refer to the life of the deceased in his social, official, business nor citizen relations. These have been lately recounted at other hands, and by able tongues. As a member of this society a few words may be permitted in connection with our meeting to-day.

Richard Watson was during all his life ardently interested in historical matters. Some years since he devoted much time and study to a careful examination of the records of the Society of Friends of the meetings in the lower end of the county, noting many forgotten facts and making copious notes for his own keeping. He was a close observer of events and it was a life long practice to write out his observations and experiences in a journal—one of the greatest aids to accurate history which individuals have ever contributed.

Judge Watson's greatest service to the Historical Society was in connection with the celebration of the Bi-Centennial anniversary of the founding of Bucks county. This movement had its beginning at a regular quarterly meeting of our organization, held at Newtown, October 11, 1881, at which a committee was appointed, headed by Josiah B. Smith, and with Judge Watson's name second on the list, to take into consideration the entire subject of a suitable observance of the two hundredth anniversary of the settlement of Bucks county.

At the meeting for organization of the committee for work, held in November following, Judge Watson was made the chairman, and was authorized to appoint a committee of seven persons to report a general plan of celebration. This committee presented a written report to Chairman Watson, at a meeting held in December, and the matter then took definite form. Richard Watson as chairman was then authorized to appoint a committee of twenty to carry through the work, and from the performance of this duty, with the knowledge and judgment which was displayed in the selection, dates the success of the Bi-Centennial celebration of 1882.

Judge Watson served upon the sub-committee on literary exercises, and made the opening address on the first day of the celebration, and from that I

take the following extract, the closing sentences of his remarks, worthy of the occasion, the man and the county of his nativity and our homes, a fitting close to this brief tribute to him whose remains were yesterday laid to rest in the Doylestown cemetery, and an encouragement to our faith and hopes brought by the history of the past to the times in which we live:

Two hundred years have passed since the settlement of the county. We have met to commemorate that event, to perpetuate a knowledge of the past, to consider the present, to look forward upon the future. Our Bi-centennial celebration is a fitting tribute to the memories of those who have lived before us, and who made Bucks county what the present generation found her. There were great and good men among them. We may profit by emulating their virtues and their works. But there is a glamour over the past that conceals the details and allows only the prominent features of the vision to be seen. The view is a distorted one. The extremes, both good and bad, appear in exaggerated forms. Men lived and worked and thought then much as they do now; they were prompted by the same motives, subject to like passions and frailties, possessed the same virtues, influenced by like religious feelings, as are the men of to day. In short, we are a people like unto them. It is, however, a just cause of congratulation for the present, and of hope for the future, to know that the world has learned much in the last two hundred years, and has been hettered by the learning. We of Bucks county have reaped and are reaping the fruits of the knowledge gained in common with our fellow men elsewhere. We live in every respect much better than our ancestors. We are better housed, better clothed, better fed and better taught. Statistics show that we live longer too. As knowledge and comforts bring enjoyments and long life, there is every reason to believe they bring also an increase of happiness and virtue. Sin is often a result merely of ignorance and want. We may sigh for the good old times when men were all honest and pure, but when those times were we do not know. The zealous enthusiast, impatient of results in his efforts to cure the evils in the world, may be disappointed and weary, may conclude mankind is growing worse instead of better, and may become himself in danger of losing his love for humanity and his faith in the truth and the right. A greater mistake was never made. An examination of the old records, both of the courts and of the church organizations, and a careful study of the history of the past, will show that offences were more frequent and flagrant in the olden times than they are to day, and that the present standard of morality is higher and more closely observed than it was then.

There is no cause for discouragement in all proper efforts to promote the good and the true. Impatience is the child of weakness. Confidence is an



attendant upon strength. Right is stronger than wrong. Good is mightier than evil. Love is the conqueror of hate. In the providence of God, love, right and truth must triumph in the end. Bucks county has abundant cause to look with pride upon her part, with satisfaction upon her present, and with confident hope upon her future.

General Davis' paper "Bedminster Township," was the closing exercise of the afternoon, and was replete with local events, names and history. At the close of General Davis' paper the following resolution was offered by Rev. Mr. Turner:

WHEREAS, The Bucks County Historical Society has been most hospitably entertained at their mid-summer meeting, July 19, 1892, at Pipersville, therefore,

Resolved, That the thanks of the members of the society and their guests are due and are hereby tendered to Messrs. C. M. Myers, A. M. Gerhart, Rec. 1 Loux, John Bergrasser, Dr. Brumbaugh and their families and neighbors who have so cordially welcomed the society and contributed to the pleasure and success of the occasion; and that the society desires to formally place upon its minutes this brief recognition of its appreciation of the hospitality extended.

After a hearty and unanimous vote in favor of the foregoing resolutions the society adjourned to the usual time in January next.

*From Intelligencer  
Doylestown Pa,  
Date, July 22/-92*

### THE GRAVE OF TAMENEND.

Read Before the Bucks County Historical Society, July 19th, by Henry C. Mercer, of Doylestown.

Walk down Neshaminy creek on the right bank at Prospect Hill, and as you come out of the hemlock grove that overhangs the water, ascend the first rivulet that crosses your path to empty into the stream. A walk of 300 or 400 yards brings you to its source, a small spring half hidden by grass, in a hollow of the open hillside meadow.

About 50 feet downward from the spring close to the rill, you find by pulling away some briars an old stump much decayed, where 40 years ago, stood a large poplar, and just 47 feet below it, some large suckers mark the former site of a chestnut tree. Between the two stumps stands a young cherry tree and there a little nearer the rivulet at the feet of the bank, 11 feet from the poplar and 36 from the chestnut, according to Aden H. Brinker, is the site of an Indian grave.

The spot is on the farm now owned by Enos Detweiler, in New Britain township, Bucks county, Pennsylvania, (1) about a mile up Neshaminy creek from Godshalk's dam, and there is no doubt that in the middle of the last century an Indian chief was buried there by white men.

The local tradition of the death and burial has been often referred to by antiquarians, notably in Watson's Annals, II, 172—in a letter written from Bucks county by one E. M., in about 1842, to the editor; in Sherman Days (historical collections, p. 163); in Harper's Magazine, vol. 44, p. 639; by W. J. Buck in the Doylestown Democrat for May 6th, 1856, and by John Rogers within a few years in the Doylestown INTELLIGENCER.

It was noted down by me in June of last year, from the lips of Thomas Shewell, Esq., of Bristol, the oldest living male descendant—great-grandson of the Walter Shewell, (b. 1702, d. 1779) who superintended the burial about 150 years ago.

A very aged Indian, too infirm to walk, so ran the story, as he knew it direct from his ancestors, while being carried by younger followers to a conference with the Proprietaries (probably at Philadelphia) halted near the above mentioned spring, (2) there tired of their burden, the young Indians built a hut for the old man, and leaving him in charge of an Indian girl, (3) suddenly, after night came on, abandoned him and went on to the treaty.

So enraged and distressed was the aged chief, on waking to find himself deserted, that he tried to commit suicide by stabbing himself, and when his weak, trembling hand could not thrust the knife with effect, at last set fire to his bed of leaves and threw himself upon it. (4) The other Indians, who had been refused a hearing by the Proprietaries in his absence, and sent back to fetch him, on arriving at the hut, found him dead with a great hole burned in his side.

The affair was voiced abroad and Walter Shewell, Esq., of Painswick Hall, (5) the most prominent man in the neighborhood and once sheriff of Bucks county, had the body buried in the presence of the Indians near the hut.

All the common versions repeat the incident omitted by Mr. Shewell, that Walter Shewell's son Robert, then a little boy, wanted to go with his father to the funeral but was forbidden. The Misses Shewell, of Doylestown, are very certain of the detail as forming part of their family tradition, but their cousin, my informant, doubts it.

Not long after the body of a son or descendant of Tammany or Tamenend (for so all the traditions distinctly name the buried chief) was brought by Indians to the spring and there buried near the other grave, where Mr. Thomas Shewell, my informant, remembered seeing both grave mounds with the stones and the two large trees in about the year 1816. (6)

Still later two more dead Indians, supposed descendants of Tamenend, were brought by the tribe to the spot for burial, and finally, for some reason unknown, interred in the old New Britain (Baptist) churchyard where all trace of their unmarked graves have been lost. (7)

On January 31, 1892, I visited the spring and site of "Tammany's grave" in the company of the only two persons now living who probably could positively identify the spot—Aden H. Brinker, of New Britain, and Edward Brinker, who had bought the Detweiler farm from Captain Robbarts and sold it to its present owner.



Knowing the need of exactness in these facts, I took the greatest care in learning from the Brinker brothers that Captain Robbarts had been a particular friend of the Shewells and a continued guest at Painswick Hall scarcely a mile away, that through Nathaniel Shewell, the then owner, (uncle of Mr. Shewell, of Bristol,) and others of the family, he had been fully acquainted with the particulars of the tradition; that after his sale of the farm to the Brinkers he had boarded at the house until his death and had frequently shown the boys and their father the graves by the spring.

Aden H. Brinker was about 14 years old when his father ordered him to remove the grave stones, flat hewn slabs of red slate from Neshaminy creek, about 3 feet long and 1½ wide with no marks upon them, and then standing at Tammany's grave 6 or 7 feet apart and protruding about 8 inches from the ground. Much less account was made of the second grave than the first, and both brothers distinctly remember their father and Captain Robbarts referring to it and pointing it out about 50 feet away across the gully. When A. H. Brinker dug up one standing stone and another fallen one as belonging to it, both of these with the other two from "Tammany's" grave were hauled away in a cart and built into the wall of the new barn.

At the same time about 1850-60 the boys cut down to be used as timber the chestnut tree and the giant poplar (whose trunk it took six horses to haul) that once shaded the spring.

So the spot has changed much since the graves were visible. So much that perhaps Mr. Shewell, who has not seen it for nearly 80 years, would not recognize it.

The steep overhanging bank has been much graded down by ploughing. The source, according to Mr. Brinker, has re-

(1) I traced back the ownership of the property in the Doylestown land records to about 1770. From that time (deed book 19, p. 76) it had come down through David Caldwell, William Forbes, William Dean, David Waggoner, Abram Moyer, John Moyer, Capt. J. Robbarts in 1824, (deed book 49, p. 189) to John Q. Adams Brinker and the present owner. I cannot learn that it was ever owned by the Shewells.

(2) The common version and that of Sherman Day, taken from some members of the Shewell family, about 1840, (Historical Collections, p. 163) says distinctly that the old chief fell ill on the road.

(3) The current versions describe the girl as his daughter, who was sent to the spring for water when he committed suicide.

(4) All the other versions say that he first tried to burn himself, but was prevented, and afterwards stabbed himself while the girl was at the spring.

(5) Painswick Hall, named after an ancestral country seat of the Shewells in England. The old house recently sold by the Misses Shewell, of Doylestown, still stands on the left of the road leading from New Britain to Castle Valley, the first building on the left after crossing the road to Godshalk's mill. Early in the last century it belonged to an estate of 500 acres. The Shewells were in New Britain in 1729.

(6) The Misses Shewell knew nothing of this grave.

(7) The Misses Shewell had not heard of these graves. Neither had the present sexton at New Britain. Eugene James, Esq., had an indistinct recollection of having heard them mentioned.

ceded nearly 100 feet from the poplar stump. The trees are gone and the hillside is bare. (8)

Still, let us draw a straight line from the poplar stump to the chestnut shoots, measure 11 feet from the former or 36 feet from the latter, and looking northward step a little to the left, and then, if there is any certainty in human evidence, we are within a few feet of the spot where a

iron knife or hatchet, a few glass beads bought from white men, and possibly a brass medal might be dug up to tell the tale of this memorable interment. Let me beg that no relic hunter, for the sake of a few comparatively modern trinkets (since he need expect to find no implements of the stone age), will venture to disturb the spot for archaeology by careless digging and render its scientific identification hopeless.

No doubt then as to the burial of the Indian, and little doubt as to our having found the spot. The only remaining question is as to the identification of the chief. Was it Tamenend?

Sherman Day (historical collections, p. 163) says "No" and adduces in proof an ingenious and at first convincing argument.

He fixed, and I think correctly, the date of burial after 1740, because Robert Shewell, the "little boy" who asked in vain, (according to the common tradition), to go to the funeral, was born then. (9)

Tammany he thinks could not possibly have been living so late and escaped the notice of the Moravian missionaries, who explored the Forks of the Delaware in 1742 and the Susquehanna soon after. But this is only a suggestion of Mr. Day's and so is my answer to it. I suggest that Tamenend might have been living until after 1740 unnoticed by white men for the following reasons:

First, Tamenend was present at a council in Philadelphia on July 6, 1694, when the Iroquois wanted the Delawares to attack the settlers (colonial 1. 447) when he made the speech, "We and the Christians of this river have always had a free road way to one another and though sometimes a tree has fallen across the road, yet we have still removed it again and kept the path clear and we design to continue the old friendship that has been between us and you."

And again on July 6, 1697, (Pa. arch. 1. 124) when, with "Wehiland and my brother and Wehequickhou, alias Andrew, who is to be king after my death," he again for the third time sells his land between Pennypack and Neshaminy creeks. This is the last official notice of him thus far discovered.

If he was forty years old then, he would have been 93 in 1750, or if 50, 103 at the later date, which is in general accord with the Bucks county tradition of his great age and the traditional information upon which Cooper bases his description in the "last of the Mohicans."

Second—The fact cannot be overlooked that Prospect Hill, the scene of his death, according to the legend, is comprised in the very lands lying between Pennypack and Neshaminy creeks, which as the particular territory of Tamenend himself he sold three times over to William Penn in 1683, 1692 and 1697. Then, and for years after, the word Tamenend must have been identified with the region, and is it likely that the Shewells, who came there in 1729, only thirty-one years after the last sale, would have made a mistake in the name?

Third—There is some corroborative evidence for the tradition in a song sung in honor of the American Saint Tammany in 1783 at one of the meetings of the then celebrated Tammany brotherhood in Philadelphia. Its beginning,

"Of Andrew, of Peter, of David, of George,  
What mighty achievements we hear,"



proves it to have been written later than the date of the first Philadelphia almanac that dubbed Tamenend a saint, about 1760-70. While its last verse,

"At last growing old, and quite worn out with years,  
As history does truly proclaim,  
His wigwam was fired, he nobly expired,  
And flew to the skies in a flame.

infers either that the composer has heard the story of his death on the Neshaminy, or had, which is rather unlikely, confused him with the well known drunken Tedyuskung, who was burnt to death in his wigwam at Wyoming in 1763.

At one of these meetings in 1781 a delegation of Senecas visited the society's "wigwam" on the Schuylkill, where hung a portrait of "Tammany," on which occasion Cornplanter made a speech and pointing to the picture, poured a libation of wine on the ground, saying, "If we pour it on ground it will suck it up and he will get it."

It was this merry-making, parading brotherhood, founded in Philadelphia before the Revolution, who set in vogue the myth that the three white balls on Penn's coat-of-arms represented three dumplings which Tammany had cooked for him at the Treaty Tree, who adopted Indian names and paraded in Indian dress on Tammany's Day (the 1st of May), (9) who invented all manner of myths, stories and sayings about the great Indian, and had him dubbed a saint by certain almanac makers, who set going the word Tammany, so to speak, over the country, and gave rise to all the other so-called Tammany societies in the United States, the Independent Order of Red Men, and the New York political organization known as Tammany Hall, founded in Borden's city hotel in New York in 1789, and who gave the name to Tammanytown, Juniata county; Mount Tammany, near Williamsport, Md.; Tamenend, Schuylkill county; Tammany street, Philadelphia (now Buttonwood); St. Tammany parish, Louisiana; Tammany, Mecklinburgh county, Virginia, and a hundred other places so called.

But fourth and last, to return to our particular subject, there is no question that the three clans of the Lenape, the Wolf, Turtle and Turkey, were in a vague, loose way presided over by a head sachem chosen from the Turtle clan by the members of the two other clans. (Lenape and Their Legends, p. 47). Just what his powers were is not definitely known. He certainly had little or nothing to do with the land sales of his fellow chiefs to the whites. Loskiel says that "he arranged treaties and conventions of peace" and kept the wampum peace belt of the tribe. (Mission, p. 135). He held his office during good behavior and so generally until death.

Such a chief was Tamanend and the others: Allumpees, died 1747; Natimus, probably Tatemy, died 1761; Netaawees, in the west, and Tedyascung, in the east, died 1763, who came after him until the removal of the Delawares from Eastern Pennsylvania, (11) and such were the many who came before him, if we are to believe the testimony of

(8) Besides the two large trees referred to, a walnut and two other chestnuts on the slope just above the spring and opposite Tammany's grave, were cut down by the Brinkers for barn building at the same time, 1850-61.

But it is useless, I think, to assign as he does, the date of any known public conference to

the journey of the old man and his followers over Prospect hill. Examination of the signed treaties proves, that no one chief whatever his rank as sachem was present at any of the land conferences which did not concern him personally. Tamenend, who was head sachem of the whole Lenape system until 1718, was not present at the Jersey land treaty of 1673, or the lower Bucks county sale in 1692, or the Chester and Pennypack sale in 1685, nor that for the Schuylkill and Pennypack lands in 1683, or Susquehanna and Delaware lands in 1683. (see Colonial Rec. and Pa. archives) when in 1683 selling lands between the Neshaminy and Pennypack (Pa. arch. 162). Tamenend concerned himself with his own patrimony. A study of the deeds throws little light on the governmental system of the Lenape we find appended to each a list of strange names, and the same tract sold several times by different individuals with no hint of a general tribal supervision.

Doubtless dozens of informal conferences were never recorded to anyone of which Tamenend may have been called. The 1748 conference concluded a sale of lands beyond the Blue Mountains. At that time Tamenend, if living, had been deposed from the office of chief sachem for 31 years.

(10) The frequent elaborate Indian costumes still common at city parades in Philadelphia are unquestionably a relic of these processions.

(11) These and many other interesting and uncollected data I find in an annotated edition of Reichel's "Memorials of the Moravian Church" at the Pennsylvania Historical Society.

the "Wallum Olum" or Lenape bark record, an historic song illustrated by mnemonic pictographs, and sung by medicine men at sacred occasions, recounting the tribal migrations and the full list of head sachems, discovered by the eccentric antiquarian, C. A. Rafinesque, and recently published by Dr. Brinton (Lenape and Their Legends, p. 170).

The Wallum Olum tells us that Tamenend, or "The Affable," was not the first of his name, but that long before, counting back by the names of scores of rulers before the coming of the whites, there were two other Tamenends, the first a celebrated head chief in the far west before the tribe had migrated eastward. Taking this and Reichel's "Memoirs of the Moravian Church" as our authority we learn that our Tamenend was preceded by Ikwahon, and probably succeeded by Allumpees, or Sassoonan, who was made chief in 1718 and held the office till his death in 1747.

Here is an important date then, the certain end of Tamenend's reign in 1718. If he died then that is the end of our story. The Neshaminy Legend is mistaken. But that he did so is by no means certain.

For some reason, not thoroughly explained, the Iroquois at about this time obtained that curious moral and physical influence over the Delawares which has been the subject of much curious speculation. Then it was that governors were sent down from the Six Nations to look after them, and they were referred to as "women" and "in petticoats," and took that position of a conquered people which they held down to the outbreak of the Revolution.

What the details of this sudden decadence were, whether a defeat in battle or a weakening dispute no one has as yet authoritatively learned. The Moravians did not come into the upper Delaware and Susquehanna region until 1742, and as Heckewelder testifies, the Indians were very reticent on these subjects.

Allumpees, made chief sachem in 1718, was a weak character who died a drunkard in 1747. As the tool of the Iroquois, he may have been elected by their powerful influence to supersede Tamenend, nor is it impossible to suppose that the latter, by a patriotic resistance to the majority of his people at the time of their degradation, had become distasteful to the Six Nations. If it is not unfair to suggest this, we have an easy explanation of



the several apparent contradictions—that he had a great reputation among his tribe, and yet that they said so little about him, that he lived until about 1750 and yet was unnoticed by early settlers, missionaries and public documents.

Yet this is but supposition and I have thus far tried in vain to sift to the bottom the stories that Tamenend once lived upon the site of Easton, was buried where Nassau Hall now stands at Princeton College, lived in the State of Delaware, or at the place in Damasus township, Wayne county, called by the early Connecticut settlers "St. Tammany's flat" in 1757.

Still I do not despair on the other hand of finding in the archives of the Moravians at Bethlehem, or in the State archives at Harrisburg or Trenton, or in the lost diaries of Still or Weiser or any of the other early scouts, or in the traditional data probably embodied in the Fenimore Cooper MSS., or from living Delawareans themselves, some direct proof that the well authenticated Neshaminy legend is true, that the great Tamenend was alive between 1697 and 1750, that deposed by his enemies in 1718 he lived on in the Pennsylvania wilderness until a very old man, watched jealously by the powerful Iroquois and their governor at Shamokin, avoided cautiously by the time servers of his tribe, beloved by many in secret, guarded by a few, and least of all, betrayed to the notice of the white stranger.

*Scraper, Inquirer  
Phila. Pa.  
Date Aug. 8/92*

## SENATOR QUAY'S CHESTER COUNTY FARM

The Purchase Was a Long-Contem-  
plated Purpose.

The Many Ties That Bind Him to  
Chester County People.

The Matthew Stanley Farm, Where  
His Mother Lived When a  
Maiden.

The Senator's Father and Mother  
Both Natives of the County—His  
People Were Among Chester's  
First Settlers—Interesting Per-  
sonal and Historical Associations.

COATESVILLE, Aug. 6.—Senator Quay's purchase of the Matthew Stanley farm of 130 acres, in West Brandywine town-

ship, Chester county, four miles north of this borough, carries out a purpose which he has kept in mind through the excitement of State and Presidential elections for a number of years. The power and influence of associations seem to be greater over strong men than they are over weaklings. The latter turn more easily and lightly from familiar scenes and come to the parting of the ways which must forever separate them from old associations with hardly a pang of regret. There are able men in public life like Carl Schurz, who, as Mr. Blaine has said, never struck his roots deeply into any soil. But the Clays, the Websters, the Madisons and the Jeffersons turn with increasing affection from the worriments and cares of public life to their Ashlands, Marshfields and Monticellos. There are many men, no doubt, who walk down Chestnut street and see nothing but the pavements, the stores and the throng passing by. There are others who take in the past and the present at the same glance, and to them



MRS. ANDERSON B. QUAY.

the procession of the members of the Continental Congress of 1774, on their way to Carpenters' Hall, may be, perhaps, as vivid a picture as the more common-place scene actually before their eyes.

It was, no doubt, his Chester county associations which set Senator Quay a number of years ago to thinking of buying a Chester county farm, and he had this purpose in mind last summer, when he visited Judge Pennypacker on the western slopes of the Valley Hills. The Matthew Stanley farm, which he has now acquired by purchase, belonged to Matthew Stanley, an able Chester county lawyer, who was the guardian and a relative of Senator Quay's mother. It was in this house that the Senator's mother spent her girlhood, and lived until her marriage to Rev. Anderson Beaton Quay, a young Presbyterian minister. On both sides of the house Senator Quay is associated with Chester county, and many of his relatives are still living in Chester and Montgomery counties. The first Quay in Pennsylvania, Alexander, bought 151 acres of land in Horsham township, Montgomery county, in 1729. His son, Alexander, was a soldier in Captain Deemer's company in the French and Indian



war. Another son was Seth Quay,



REV. ANDERSON E. QUAY.

a judge of the Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas. After the Revolutionary War the Quays crossed the Schuylkill into Chester county. The Senator's grandfather, Joseph Anderson, who had also been a soldier in the French and Indian war, and who subsequently was the senior captain of the Pennsylvania Line in the Revolution. The Andersons were the first white settlers in Schuylkill township, and some of the family are still living on the tract of land on the Pickering creek which James Anderson bought in 1713. When James Anderson's wife went over into the Great Chester Valley to visit her father, Thomas Jarmon, she left her babe—who was in due course of time the great-grandfather of Senator Quay—at home, to be tenderly nursed and suckled by an Indian woman. The Senator's grandfather, Joseph Quay, is buried in the Anderson family burying ground. Here, also, is buried Major Patrick Anderson and the Senator's great-uncle, Isaac Anderson, who, as a member of Congress in 1805, headed the list of ayes in favor of liberating the blacks in the District of Columbia and prohibiting the importation of slaves.

An interesting political letter written by Hon. Isaac Anderson from Harris-



Doorway of Major Patrick Anderson's House, Schuylkill Township.

burg to Major E. Howell under date of March 6, 1802, is preserved. It is partly as follows:

I am happy to inform you that there is a considerable portion of the Legislature pious Christians of different denominations. Soon after I arrived a Presbyterian

elder from Fayette county invited me to take lodgings with him, as he has since told me, purely on account of religion. I accordingly moved, and abide with him in much friendship, together with another gentleman of said Church. It has been remarked that there is as little immorality in this House of Assembly as has ever been known. Notwithstanding you may be sure that Christianity admits room for the best to amend, and there is a daily necessity for the exercise of all the grace we have gotten.

The Senator's father, Rev. Anderson Beaton Quay, and his mother, Catharine Mc-



Home of Joseph Quay (Senator Quay's Grandfather) on Pickering Creek.

Cain, were both born in Chester county. Catharine McCain Quay and Thomas McKean, the signer of the Declaration of Independence, probably sprang from the same Chester county family. Thomas McKean's father, William, spelled the name "McKean;" but the will dated December 28, 1730, of the mother of the latter, who lived in New London township, Chester county, is signed "Susannah McCain." Senator Quay's father, Anderson Beaton Quay, the Presbyterian minister, is still well remembered for his useful labors in the Cumberland Valley, as appears from a history of the Presbyterian Church in that valley, and at Beaver, as will be seen by reference to the history of Beaver county. Within a year or so the Beaver county newspapers have spoken of Senator Quay's very liberal contributions towards the restoration of the church of which his father was pastor until the time of his death. These associations will readily explain why Presbyterians turned to him with their protests against opening the World's Fair on Sunday and account for his having recently secured the passage by the United States Senate of an amendment to the World's Fair appropriation bill requiring the fair to be closed on that day. They explain, too, the readiness with which his influence was used to secure the passage of the High License law in Pennsylvania, and subsequently, the submission to the people of the proposed Prohibition amendment to the State Constitution.

The purchase of a Chester county farm by Senator Quay is therefore in the nature of a long-contemplated home coming, a return to scenes with which





THE HOUSE ON SENATOR QUAY'S FARM.



TOMB OF JOSEPH QUAY.

his father and mother and their people had been familiar for nearly two centuries. When a boy his father talked to him of these scenes and brought him to visit them. They have always been the background to his life. There could be no fairer one, for the Brandywine

—Wind'st through meadows green,  
Fringed with tall grass and graceful  
bending fern.

However far afield the Chester countian or the man of Chester county stock may wander—and one such, Bayard Taylor, was equally at home in Germany, in Egypt, on the Syrian coast or in Persia—he is apt to look back through all his wanderings to the hills, streams and vales of Chester and to return to them, as Taylor did, with increased affection and appreciation of their beauty. Chester county life and Chester county scenery have been described in the poetry of Taylor and Buchanan Read and in Taylor's novels. Nearly every hamlet has its traditions of the marches and battles of the armies of Washington and Howe, and it is not surprising if the Chester countian finds a west which is no further west than Ohio barren in its lack of historical suggestiveness, or unbeautiful, since the face of nature has been stamped with a different mould from that which has given its impress to the hills that drain into the French



The Anderson Homestead on the Pickering Creek.

creek, the Pickering, the Schuylkill or the Brandywine.

What value literary and historical associations add to the price of real estate is perhaps still an undetermined question. Perhaps it depends something upon what value the owner of such real estate sets upon associations. The descendants of Mad Anthony Wayne have kept at Paoli his home much as he and his father left it. There is a room with Wayne's swords, his uniform, his desk, his furniture. With the exception of Mount Vernon, the home of no other Revolutionary general has been kept thus intact. The visitor to Waynesborough is forced to the conviction that the unusual reverence and regard for old associations paid by the descendants of the hero of Stony Point has advanced the price of real estate throughout the entire neighborhood. There are houses in Chester county in which the bearers of nearly all the great names of the American Revolution as well as many of the leaders of Great Britain's forces have slept. Whether such associations advance the price of real estate depends upon what store people set by such things. Senator Quay is said to have paid \$10,000 for 130 acres, or about \$77 per acre. Without its associations the farm would not have been found in him a purchaser. They meant nothing to the seller and everything to the purchaser, but when they come to



mean much to the holder the value of property must advance. It is safe to say that the Matthew Stanley farm will not soon sell again at such a low figure, and that its influence hereafter, like that of the Wayne homestead, will tend to appreciate real estate values in the neighborhood. The sentiment of any community, in spite of a counter-acting tendency springing from the misfortunes or hardships of some of its members, is the reflection of the sentiment of a few. The stiff upper lip of one man can stay a panic even in real estate prices. The land which is desired by one will be desirable to two and eventually to many, and thus the coming of a good, thrifty neighbor with the ability and disposition to keep down the weeds and keep up the fences, and make twenty-five or thirty bushels of wheat grow on the acre that produced only fifteen bushels is a welcome addition in any farming community.

*Frozen Records*  
*West-Chester Co.*  
*Date Aug. 13/92*

**LOOKING BACKWARD.**

**AN INTERESTING CHAPTER OF RAIL-ROAD REMINISCENCES BY "J. P."**

**Some Bits of History Husbanded That Will Strike the Reader as Being Well Worth a Careful Perusal and a Storing Away for Future Reference, Etc.**

NO. 1.

EDITOR NEWS:—The recollections of your correspondent P. in the LOCAL NEWS of July 5th in regard to the surroundings of the old inclined planes, recall to memory many facts and incidents in connection with the early days of the old Pennsylvania State Railroad that may not be uninteresting to your readers. But few of those who were active in the scenes of fifty years ago now remain to tell of them.

Much that would be interesting in the history of the old State works has already been forgotten, and passed beyond reach of record. I shall attempt no consecutive history of this greatest improvement of its day, only jotting down such incidents as may recur to memory, not forgetting its connection with our own first efforts to connect West Chester with the outside world by more rapid transit than the old stage lines afforded.

It would be well to state the condition of travel and transportation at and previous to the opening of railroads in our Commonwealth. Before 1830 all travel and transportation was carried on by means of stage coaches and wagons, mostly over very poorly constructed and badly maintained dirt roads, and was necessarily very expensive. Few traveled, and country merchants bought their supplies semi-annually, sending wagons to the city for the same, or depending upon

farmers' returning wagons, sent to the city to dispose of grain or surplus productions.

The cheapest and most common custom of that day when a man wished to visit the far West, then Ohio and Indiana, was to mount his horse and go it alone or in company with others mounted in a similar manner. Their tavern bills were very small, so that time was the principal expense. Pittsburg had at this time become a thriving town and the centre of a very considerable trade down the Ohio and Mississippi rivers. Most of her supplies of dry goods, groceries, and other articles of trade were obtained from Philadelphia, being transported by what were known as the Conestoga wagons. These were mostly owned by farmers of Chester and Lancaster counties, and had become the source of very considerable revenue to them. Old residents will remember the long strings of these wagons passing through West Chester, especially in the fall of the year, on their way to their distant destination. The business had already assumed large proportions, taxing the capacity of farmers to furnish necessary teams, and, of course, making the cost of transportation very heavy. Cattle, mostly feeding steers, were brought from Kentucky on the hoof, so that a better means of reaching the seaboard market with the grain and heavier products of the West was becoming apparent to all.

**THE FIRST MEETING.**

The first meeting held in reference to the construction of the State public works took place at the house of Joshua Hoopes, in Downingtown—a large stone building in East Downingtown, on the south side of Lancaster Pike, where he kept a boarding school for boys at the time. Here a few prominent men met to discuss the matter and arrange for the further agitation of the subject. They were all active business men of their day, and, probably, not one of that little company now survives. But from this small beginning originated the State works, consisting of railroads and canals extending from Philadelphia to Pittsburg. It was a tremendous undertaking considering the financial strength of the country at that day.

A canal had at first been talked of reaching the whole length of the State. The railroad was an after thought.

Railroading was in its infancy in England, and only a few wonderful reports, some true and many false, came to us of the great progress being made there in locomotion.

There was much preliminary work to do to bring public opinion up to a knowledge of the necessity for and the possibility of a better means of transportation.

The Legislature had to be appealed to as the only source of wealth sufficient to make the great improvements contemplated. Of course this took time and the expenditure of much active energy by earnest men. Some experiments had been tried at railroading in England and wonderful estimates had been made of the possibilities and profits of this new method of travel and transportation. Finally the Legislature was brought up to that point where appropriations for the construction of the proposed improvements became a necessity to satisfy the public demands.

None were experienced in the construction or management of railroads, nor was there any who could conceive of the important field of enterprise this interest was to occupy in the near future.

Major John Wilson, the son of an English civil engineer of some note, was supposed to have more knowledge upon the subject than any one else on this side of the Atlantic, so



he was put in charge of construction, under the supervision of a board of State commissioners.

His knowledge was very limited, and his many errors subsequently proved very costly to the State. Under his advice and directions several plans for the construction of road beds and tracks were tried. There was no railroad iron made in this country at the time, and all had to be imported from England at a heavy cost.

#### THE FIRST TRACKS.

The first tracks in use were laid on stone with few or no cross-ties. The rail was known as the edge rail, about two inches in width on the top surface, then narrowed down with a small flange at the base. This was set in cast iron chairs about two and a half feet apart, and keyed with iron wedges, the chairs being spiked to cubical blocks of stone set in the ballasted road bed. It made a very fair support for the light locomotives and cars first used, but the jarring of passing trains loosened and dropped the keys out of place, and the rails spread for want of cross-ties, so that the derailing of cars was a common occurrence, and men had to pass along the tracks daily, replacing and fastening the keys.

Another plan tried was a flat iron rail, two inches wide by half inch in thickness, laid on a continuous stone foundation, spiked fast to the same at the space of fifteen inches between spikes. But this plan proved to be a failure, as did the same iron bars spiked to timbers laid lengthwise of the track. The timber soon rotted or mashed under the heavy weights rolling over them, the spikes drew out of the wood and the ends of bars curled up, sometimes coming through the bottom of the cars and doing much damage. That laid on stone was solid, in fact too solid, for the vibration it caused in locomotives was so great as to rapidly destroy the fine machinery.

The flat bar was entirely dispensed with in 1840. A short piece, of say about two miles of this stone road, had been laid from the head of the inclined planes westward. It was on the north side or west bound track, and run to what was known as the blacksmith shops, or Old Merion Meeting House. This track was abandoned about 1839, and all of the business was done on the south track after that until the planes were avoided. This single track was the site of several accidents and collisions, and often it was necessary for conductor or firemen to run the curves ahead of his train or cars to secure their safety, for we had no telegraph in those days.

#### TAVERNS.

Before railroads were built taverns were very numerous along all of the principal highways of the country. They were considered necessary for the accommodation of the traveling public, were mostly well-kept, orderly, and were often very profitable to owners, although charges were always moderate.

On the old West Chester road there were as many as twenty of these stopping places in the twenty-two miles between Philadelphia and West Chester.

This road was used by all Pittsburg teams, when the roads were good, to save tolls. But when dirt roads were in a bad condition they took the Lancaster Pike. Along this road had been established some very good taverns, amongst them a large and superior one at Paoli, which was kept by General Joshua Evans, a popular politician in his day and an ex-member of the 22d Congress.

It was said that when Major Wilson and the commissioners were laying out the route

of the Columbia division they were pursuing a course from Downingtown down Chester Valley that would have brought them to Philadelphia at easy grades. General Evans appreciating the importance of having the railroad near his tavern invited the engineers and commissioners to a big dinner at his hotel, and there succeeded in convincing them of the propriety of coming out of the valley before reaching his place. By means of heavy grades and many graceful curves, the beauty of which were the pride of Major Wilson, the line of road was laid within about forty feet of his doors.

General Evans being a prominent Democrat his hotel was long a stopping place for passenger trains, as a dining station, whilst that party was in power and controlled the public works.

#### ON HIGHER GROUND.

After getting out of the valley on to the higher grounds of the south valley hills, the route of the road followed the same to within a mile of the Schuylkill River, about four miles northwest of the city. Here it was thought the only means to reach the level of the city was by means of an inclined plane, which was then thought to be no important obstruction to a railroad.

Whilst the State works were being talked of and partly under construction, the people of West Chester became excited upon the subject of rapid transportation, and a meeting of prominent citizens was held at the old Turk's Head, Dec. 11th, 1830, at which a committee was appointed to make inquiry and assist in some preliminary surveys. This committee reported on the 22d of the month that a possible route had been found by which a connection could be made with the State works, and a town meeting was called for the 24th.

At this meeting it was resolved to appoint a committee to secure a charter. The charter was obtained Feb. 18th, 1831, for a road nine miles in length to connect with the State Road at Intersection, now Malvern. On the 22d of March the books of the company were opened for the sale of stock, the par value being \$50. The whole of it was disposed of in a few minutes, there being a great rush for it, people fighting for a chance to subscribe. More than double the amount wanted was offered, as it was expected to pay great dividends from the calculations made by the enthusiastic managers. The writer bought some of this stock in 1844 at \$1 per share. It had at this time only paid three small dividends and these not out of any profits.

John P. Bailly, as assistant engineer under Major Wilson, went to work immediately to lay out and construct the road.

On September 18th, 1832, it was announced that Mr. Bailly, had completed the construction of the road in a satisfactory manner in the short space of sixteen months, and a vote of thanks was rendered him for his energy and promptness.

This was probably the only road in the United States ever built within the time and cost estimated by engineers.

The road was partially opened for short trips and excursions on the 13th of September, 1832, this being previous to the opening of the State Road, which was not yet ready for use.

On the 18th of October, 1832, the Canal Commissioners reported their road open for travel to the head of the inclined planes. Shortly after this the writer made his first trip to the city by rail, the passengers being taken to the city from the head of the inclined planes in omnibuses, crossing the Schuylkill at Fairmount or Market street bridges.



## THE FIRST CARS.

The first cars put upon the road for the purpose of carrying passengers were built after the pattern of Troy coaches, then in general use for staging. Like them the body was swung on two great leather straps and these were the only springs in use for a time. The cars were so light that they were liable to tip up behind on the sudden application of the brakes. The West Chester company suffered a heavy loss in a suit for damages after an accident of this kind that happened at Haverford. Three passengers were badly hurt by being pitched from the top of the car.

The cars were increased in size and weight and changed in construction as new ones were needed. Taverns were erected along the line of the roads for the accommodation of travelers, and at these points the horses of the various lines were at first stationed. The West Chester Company had teams to run from their depot near Broad and Race streets in the city to the foot of the inclined plane. The next team took the car from the head of the planes to White Hall. Here teams were exchanged and the next run was to the Eagle. From there to Green Tree was another section, and thence to West Chester was the last. All teams with the exception of those below the planes were driven tandem, and doubled their run daily, the same drivers going through from the head of the planes to West Chester and returning daily.

## NEARLY A FOUR-HOUR TRIP.

Although the average time for a trip between the city and West Chester was not far from four hours, yet at that time it was not deemed a tedious ride. In fair weather with seats on top of the cars, passengers put in the time in an enjoyable manner. At every tavern it was the custom to stop a few minutes for refreshments. Passengers would leisurely get down, walk into the bar-room and take a drink all around, and if conductor or driver were not comfortably full by the time they got through it was generally their own fault.

The stopping places between Philadelphia and West Chester were DeBeaufree's, east of the Columbia Bridge; two hotels at the top of the inclined planes, one kept by a Mr. Williams, the name of the proprietor of the other not remembered. West of the planes first came the White Hall kept by Mr. Castner, Mrs. Castner, the landlady, being famous for her pies. Four miles farther west we came to Morgan's Corner, now Radnor Station, then kept by Billy Morgan. Next was the Eagle, kept by Miff Lewis, whose wife was a daughter of Mrs. Castner, and was equally noted as a pie constructor. Next came Paoli, kept first by Gen. Joshua Evans, and after his death by his son, John D. Evans, both noted Democrats; and then came the Green Tree, kept by Jonathan Jones, and later by his son Jacob, both pronounced Whigs, and hence received no favors from the Democratic State Commissioners.

These were all of the regular stopping places directly on the line of the road, though several other good hotels were near by on the pike. But the horse cars were accommodating and stopped at farm houses or any intermediate points for passengers.

## AN INVIGORATING OUTING.

To take a seat on top of a car with a pleasant party of young friends, and there in the free, fresh air enjoy to the full the constant changing scenery, the ever fresh breeze made by the motion of the car, the jokes and fun suggested by joyous hearts released for

the day from daily toil and restraint of city life, were memorable occasions and shortened the lad's time as well as distance to his loved old home in the country.

Occasionally a snake head or a loose key might vary the trip by pitching the car from the track, giving us a merry ride for a time over the cross-ties, but all of the men would quickly dismount, send the ladies to the far end of the car, and then proceed to lift the car on the track again, one end at a time. But such incidents were scarcely noticed, and they detracted very little from the enjoyment of a trip to and from West Chester.

## THE FIRST CAR DRIVERS.

The first car drivers came onto the railroads from the old stage lines that had previously traversed the country in every direction, some of which were now abandoned.

Among the earliest I remember George Ohio, Jeff and Joe Cave and John Wiler. The last named became a conductor on the State road when horses were dispensed with, and locomotives placed on the main line, and remained in active service until superannuated, and was finally pensioned by the Pennsylvania Railroad about 1876.

He was a man noted for integrity and steady habits when such was not the rule amongst men in his calling. He died in 1831 aged about 82 years. He was probably the last one of the old stage drivers that had been transferred to the railroad at its commencement. Of the earliest conductors put upon the roads, but few if any now remain.

I remember amongst them the names of John Wiler, Capt. Hambright, Ned Low and Chip Parsons on the main line. On the old West Chester line were Billy Price, George Jefferis, Jeff Cave, R. M. Frame, Davis Gill, and David and George Zell. Among the earlier engineers I remember of but a few names; they were Jake Wilson, who later got a berth on a Government vessel; John Slack, Harry Cruson, Ike Bruce, John Natt, Dan Fagan, Bill Courtney and the late Levi Hoffman.

NO. 2 IN MONDAY'S ISSUE.

*From Ledger  
Phila. Pa.  
Date Aug. 11/92*

## LOOKING BACKWARD.

## AN INTERESTING CHAPTER OF RAILROAD REMINISCENCES BY "J. P."

Some Bits of History Husbanded That Will Strike the Reader as Being Well Worth a Careful Perusal and a Storing Away for Future Reference, Etc.

NO. 2.

## THE ORIGINAL IDEA.

The original idea was that the State should furnish only the roadway, and that private individuals or companies should furnish cars and horses for the purpose of carrying passengers and freight, the State charging only road tolls, and such was the method first adopted. Anyone had a right to put on his freight car and run it so long as he paid the



tolls, giving way only to passengers cars when overtaken at a siding. But the use of steam was soon adopted when it was found that all horse cars were in the way, interfering with the running of trains, so all freight cars were ordered attached to regular trains. The West Chester Railroad Company only having the privilege of running horses, through its very liberal charter from the State, several of the old stage lines put passenger cars on the road to carry passengers, and when the State commenced to furnish motive power these several companies attached their cars to the same locomotive, and travelers took their choice as to which they would patronize. State agents were put on each train to count the passengers carried and report the same to collectors. The only names now remembered among the early State agents were Jonathan Monahan, Nelson Taylor, Captain Hambright, Billy Kelly, McMichael and Jimmy Hunter. As the State works had become a great political machine by 1840, and the Democratic party being in power, of course every State agent, engineer, fireman and laborer on the road was required to pass muster and show his faith when election day came around, and so control of the State was firmly held.

#### GROWING BUSINESS.

About the time of the opening of the State Road for business there had grown up in Philadelphia an important trade in Kentucky tobacco which had previously been carried from Pittsburg in returning wagons.

This trade, it was supposed, would be greatly increased by the cheaper facilities afforded in transportation by the coming railroad. So what was then thought a great building was erected near the foot of Dock street for the storage and sale of this great staple, and is still known as the old tobacco warehouse.

The railroad entering the city by way of Willow and Broad streets was extended to Broad and Market, thence down Market to Third and on to Dock Street Wharf and the tobacco warehouse.

As it was thought desirable to have freight depots located as near the centre of trade as possible, three companies that had entered into competition for the Pittsburg trade sought locations on this piece of road.

O'Conner & Co. opened a depot near Eighth and Market. To be more central, D. Leech & Co. secured a place on Third street, between Market and Dock, whilst Dutilh & Co. got possession of the old tobacco warehouse. They all did a large business up to the time of the sale of the State works to the Pennsylvania Railroad Company.

The O'Conner and Leech cars were at first all short on four wheel trucks, and made so that the bodies with contents could be lifted off with cranes and transferred to the decks of canal boats when necessary to make the change at Columbia and Hollidaysburg. Later some canal boats were built in three and four sections, and these were transferred to eight-wheeled cradles when railroads were to be traversed. They were loaded in Pittsburg, and freight was not broken until they arrived at the depots in Philadelphia. The captain and his family often made their home on the boat throughout the trips.

#### IN 1845.

By the year 1845 when the West Chester and State railroads had been in operation for about eleven years, managers of the same began to better understand and appreciate the work intrusted to their care. They found that railroading was a science yet but little understood, and that a knowledge of which was only to be obtained by practical ex-

perience, that the theories of inexperienced engineers had been at fault, and that instead of being profitable dividend-paying speculations, every railroad in the country was being run at a loss to stockholders.

True, small dividends were paid occasionally by some companies to keep up their credit in the stock market, and enable them to borrow more money, but these dividends were mostly made from money thus obtained, repairs and expenses eating up all of the income, so that nothing was left for dividends or improvements.

The State works, under the constant changing of new and inefficient political managers, became a great drain upon the State Treasury, demanding, as it yearly did, of the Legislature, appropriations for its support and betterment.

#### ABOUT DIVIDENDS.

The West Chester Company had paid three dividends in the eleven years, whilst sorely in need of the money itself, but had failed to respond to the urgent appeals of hungry stockholders for the last six years. The road was now badly out of repair and must be renewed or abandoned.

The timbers of the road bed had rotted away, cars were worn out, and the company in debt to the full amount of its credit. Times had been hard, the money market had for some years been in a terrible condition, the whole country was in debt to England for the vast importations of iron and other product of her manufactures shoved upon us under the operations of a low tariff. Gold and silver had disappeared and shin-plasters were used to carry on trade, the bonds of the great State of Pennsylvania had been sold in the market at 31 cents on the dollar, her debt at the time having assumed what was then considered immense proportions, over forty millions of dollars. Interest was in default, and demagogue politicians began to talk of repudiation. Under the almost free trade policy of the Government the national treasury had become bankrupt.

The State of Pennsylvania, with millions of tons of iron within her borders, had been compelled to buy her railroad iron in England at an enormous cost. But by the year 1845 the beneficial effects of the protective tariff of 1842 began to be strongly felt, business and confidence had revived, idle mills and manufactories had been started, labor was in demand. Iron mills were built, and soon turned out better rails at lower prices than had ever been obtained in foreign markets. The tariff of 1842 gave such an impetus to business, establishing many industries upon so firm a basis that the repeal of that act in 1846 failed to again crush them out, as it was hoped by British manufacturers it would. Every thing gave promise of better times for the future.

So in 1845 one more determined effort was made to revive and save the old West Chester Railroad, a new management was determined upon, practical men were placed in charge, good business methods with strict economy were adopted, the road was relaid with the old flat bar on new Carolina yellow pine for string pieces. Business improved and the credit of the company was re-established, and in less than three years it was easy to borrow sufficient money to relay the road with a good T rail of American manufacture.

This debt was paid off out of the profits within three years, and the company's business appeared to be established on a sound foundation, and a dividend was thereafter paid out of the profits.

#### AN ANNOYANCE.

For some years one of the most annoying



of the many troubles of the management of the West Chester road was in the constant contention with the Board of Canal Commissioners to maintain their chartered rights on the State Road. This board chosen entirely through political preferment, and accountable only to their party, was frequently changed, new men entirely ignorant of the practical working of railroads, or the duties of the office, were appointed, and in their anxiety to show extra efficiency constantly blundered, and thus brought all connected with the business of the works into trouble.

So annoying had this become that in 1847 it was determined by agents of the company to see if there was not some other way by which they might reach the city with a new road, and thus get rid of this annoyance as well as to avoid the inclined planes, which had become such a hinderance to travel that it was really dangerous for a responsible company to do business over it.

#### SURVEYORS AT WORK.

A corps of engineers was sent out in 1847 to survey several routes, but the nature of the country between West Chester and Philadelphia was such that from the experience of those interested it was satisfactorily proven that no road could be built at that time that would pay the constructors of the same. Notwithstanding these careful examinations and estimations made by experienced men, a company was formed by others in 1848, men totally ignorant of such matters, to build a new road by a more southern route. This road after several years of struggle and delay finally reached West Chester, but at a total loss to original subscribers. It is now known as the Media branch of the Pennsylvania railroad.

The business on the State Road had so increased within the last few years that it was found almost impossible to pass it over the inclined planes, and that the planes were an obstruction to trade and travel, that must soon be done away with at any cost. Freight cars were often delayed a whole day in passing the planes.

When urged to make a change of route the Canal Commissioners plead poverty, and that nothing could be done without State appropriations, no longer to be easily obtained.

Previous to 1840 a number of Philadelphia capitalists had foreseen the necessity of a better and more direct entrance into the city, and had formed a company with the view of laying a road that would avoid the inclined planes. It was known as the West Philadelphia Railroad Company. Commencing on the line of the State Road, near what is now Ardmore, then known as Anderson's lane, this company graded a very considerable portion of that part of the Pennsylvania Road now in use between Ardmore and West Philadelphia.

The old road from Anderson's lane wound around considerably to the north, passing through the little hamlet of Libertyville, thence to near the old Merion Meeting House, and on from there pretty directly to the head of the inclined planes. The new road would be much shorter besides avoiding the planes, but in the hard times previous to 1842 this company failed and the work was abandoned.

#### SEEKING ANOTHER ROUTE.

About 1850 the impossibility of doing the constantly increasing business of the State Road over the planes became apparent to every one, and the Canal Board found themselves compelled to seek some other route.

They finally decided upon taking that already partly graded and abandoned by the West Philadelphia Company, and the change was made in 1851.

#### THE OLD PLANES.

But few now remain who remember the once active scenes around the old inclined planes. Fifty years ago when all was active life around there, trains were rushing up and down the incline, pulley wheels hummed as they carried the great cable forward, and many men hurried around to tie on or loosen the cars and send them on their way. When last seen by the writer the old planes were an abandoned waste, covered by rank weeds, and only tradition now tells that once it was a portion of the great works of the State that first opened up communication with the far West. As I remember these planes when in most active operation, they were about three-eighths of a mile in length, with a regular rise of about one foot in ten from bottom to top. At the head of the grade was a shed covering the tracks and machinery, about two hundred feet in length. At the west end of this, in a building on the north side, was a large stationary engine to drive the machinery. A large endless rope, say three inches in diameter, made of the best material, was the direct means of traction. This cable for its whole length rested and ran upon a series of grooved cast-iron pulleys, ten or twelve inches in diameter, placed in the middle of each track at about twenty-five feet apart, except at both ends of the planes, where it was run under the tracks. At the top the cable passed around a large driving wheel lying horizontally under the tracks, which was driven by the stationary engine. It also passed around a movable wheel, called a stretcher, used to tighten the cable when necessary. At the foot of the planes was another large horizontal wheel under the tracks. This was simply a carrier of the rope from the descending track to the up-going one. This cable was made of the best hemp and had to be frequently renewed. Wire cables were tried, but they failed to answer the purpose. Four or five was the usual number of cars passed down at one time, and it was always desirable to have a similar train come up as one went down, thus saving power. At the top of the planes a freight conductor, who was permitted to run not more than five cars under his special care over the road, when his turn came dropped his train down from the siding to and under the shed. Here they were attached to the cable by means of heavy rope ties. At the same time as many cars would be brought from a siding near the foot of the planes, and run as far up on the grade as a team of horses could take them, where men stood with blocks of wood to block and keep them from running back.

These were tied on in a similar manner, and then a signal was turned to show that all was ready. At the top was a signal office, in which there was a small but good telescope through which the signal man could see all that was going on at the foot of the planes, except in very foggy weather. On the signal being turned at the foot the signal man notified the engineer by ringing a bell, when the cable would be started. The down-going cars on arriving at the foot of planes were blocked and untied from the cable, then the blocks were knocked away and they were allowed to run down to the bridge, from whence teams took them across the river to a siding on the east side, from whence they were taken by locomotives to near Broad street. Passenger cars always had the right of way at the planes and were seldom detained when running on time.

#### MANY ACCIDENTS.

Many serious accidents occurred at these



planes from time to time. The cable would sometimes break or ties slip, when the brakes, often very inefficient, would not control the cars, and a smash-up at the foot of the planes was a pretty certain result. A very simple safety brake sliding on the track was invented, which was tied on behind ascending or before descending cars, that proved to be very efficient in stopping runaway trains. Passenger cars were sometimes, when the machinery was out of order, run down by the brakes alone, but it was always considered dangerous, and especially so when the tracks were wet.

Of the old employes about the planes, I now remember only two by name. They were Ike Smith, long in charge of the stationary engine, and Dutch Jake, Rigger.

In 1851 the planes had been abandoned, and the old Columbia bridge, with that portion of the road lying east of the bridge, sold to the Reading Railroad Company.

The Old West Chester Railroad Company exchanged its hotel and depot property in Broad street for a property on Market street west of Eighteenth in 1852, and its business was transacted subsequently from that point.

From this time the financial condition of the company improved so that it was enabled to pay all running expenses, make necessary improvements and pay a small dividend to shareholders.

#### A CORRUPTING MACHINE.

The State works, under unwise management, had been a drain upon the State Treasury from its commencement and made no promise of ever doing better. In the hands of political parties it had become a powerful corrupting machine for the manipulation of elections, and enabled the party in power to hold control of the State government.

Public opinion was outraged and became dissatisfied with the gross mismanagement and corrupting influences of those in power, and finally compelled the Legislature to pass an act authorizing the sale of all the public works.

This sale, subsequently made, took place at the Philadelphia Exchange, the Pennsylvania Railroad Company being the purchaser at the limit fixed by the act.

*From. Ledger*  
*Phila. Pa.*  
*Date Aug. 17/92*

### PAOLI.

#### AN OLD TIME HOSTELRIE, WITH ITS HISTORIC ASSOCIATIONS.

**The General Paoli—The Sign-board of the Inn—The Paoli Massacre—The Lancaster Turnpike—The Columbia Railroad.**

[PREPARED FOR THE PUBLIC LEDGER.]  
Paoli! What name is more familiar to the residents of Chester and Delaware counties, or to the thousands of suburban travellers who daily speed to and fro on the main system of the Pennsylvania Railroad.

What name, outside of Valley Forge, is better known to students of Revolutionary history, or what watchword and battle-cry was more inspiring than that of brave Anthony Wayne, known to every schoolboy in connection with the storming of Stony Point, viz.: "Remember Paoli!"

From the large number of so-called Paoli trains arriving and departing from Broad Street Station the natural deduction is made by strangers that Paoli must be a large and thriving inland town; consequently great is the disappointment when they find, on their arrival, that the place is merely a terminus for the local trains, on account of the signal tower, turntable and "Y" which is located here.

At the present time there is little or nothing left to tell the generation of to-day that this immediate locality was once one of the busiest centres outside of Philadelphia, and that the scenes of life and activity were as great as the present state of rural quiet.

Leaving the cars at the station, and passing south over the bridge, we come to a large rambling stone structure on the right. This is the old inn, whose sign-board gave the name to the vicinity, at present untenanted and desolate looking, with nothing to recall any of its former importance, the very rustle of the leaves on the surrounding trees seeming to sigh a requiem for its departed glory. There is considerable history connected with the old hostelrie, independent of the numerous traditions, many of which, unfortunately, fail to stand the test of modern critical investigation. Directly in front of the building passes the Lancaster turnpike, once the greatest highway in the State, but now at this particular point the ideal of a deserted highway.

#### The General Paoli.

The old inn dates from the year 1770, and was entirely different in appearance from the present one. The topography of the immediate locality was also different. The Lancaster road, which preceded the turnpike, ran a hundred yards or so south of the present highway. The course of the old road can still be traced through the hollow, where the pumping station stands, thence westward up the hill by a row of cedars just back of the Episcopal Church on the turnpike.

The original house was built by Joshua Evans (1) about 1768, and faced what is now known as the Darby road, which here intersected the old Lancaster road at an angle. The house when built, was about two hundred yards north of the intersection. It was a small, unpretentious two-story affair, with small windows and low ceilings. Remains of this house can still be seen in the rear of the wing which stands parallel with the turnpike.

The builder of the house was a son of William Evans, the emigrant, by profession a blacksmith, who purchased 500 acres of land of William Penn and settled here in 1719 and became a man of considerable importance in the infant settlement. He was a churchman and his name appears in the first vestry at St. David's Church, Radnor, in 1725.

After the house was completed, in 1769, a petition for license was presented to the Judges stating: "That, whereas there is no house of public entertainment between the Yellow Springs and the 'Square' in Newtown, on the road leading through a large body of the upper part of this county by the Valley Church to Chester, Darby &c., which is too great a distance for one stage, being 14 miles apart, and, of consequence, must be attended with great disadvantage to the large concourse of people



passing that way, and, as your petitioner has a very commodious house situated in the township of Tredyffrin, &c., your petitioner therefore humbly requests your Honors to recommend him to his Honor, the Governor, for a license to keep a publick house of entertainment in the aforesaid place, &c."

This application was strenuously objected to by Lynford Lardner, the owner of the "Admiral Warren," two miles above on the Lancaster road, as his house was but  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles from the Blue Ball (Doylesford). A counter petition, signed by Anthony Wayne, Lewis Gronow and 16 other citizens of like character, however, turned the balance in favor of the applicant.

**The Sign Board of the Inn**  
bore the equestrian figure of Pascal Paoli, a Corsican general and patriot, who then was living in exile in England, and was looked upon as the ideal patriot and champion of liberty.

Little is known of the General Paoli tavern during the first few years of its existence, except that it was the gathering place of the Waynes, Joneses, Bartholomews, Andersons, Gronows, Pearces and other patriotic men of the vicinity. Here meetings were held for the discussion of the affairs of the province, and the political situation, and plans laid for the future, and when finally the struggle for freedom commenced, every one of the above were prominent in organizing troops for their country's defence.

No records remain as to the losses sustained by the innkeeper when the country was overrun by the British and Hessians in September, 1777. It was this tavern which gave the name to the affair on the night of September 20th, 1777, although it took place one and a half miles southwest of the inn, viz.:

**The Massacre of Paoli,**  
where the troops under Wayne were routed by the British, under Major General Grey. On that eventful night there were two regiments of British troops (40th and 51st Infantry), under Colonel Musgrove, stationed at the road crossing to intercept the patriots should they attempt to retreat in this direction; these troops, however, were not called into action during the night.

After Philadelphia was evacuated by the British in 1778, the Paoli, together with all other roadside inns on the Lancaster highway, which were known as patriot houses, reaped the harvest caused by the increased travel on the great road from Philadelphia. It was shortly after the close of the Revolution when the first addition was made to the house; it was about 27 by 30 feet, and built of the limestone or blue marble of the valley, and is still discernible in the rear of the large house.

#### **The Lancaster Turnpike.**

The great era of prosperity, during which the inn earned its reputation, commenced with the completion of the Lancaster turnpike (1794), the first road of the kind in the United States. Local tradition awards to General Anthony Wayne the credit of offering the first resolution in the Assembly (1784-6) relative to improving the roads of the State, the outcome of which was the experimental highway from Philadelphia to Lancaster, a distance of 62½ miles.

The act incorporating the Turnpike Company was approved by Governor Mifflin, April 9, 1792, and was at once commenced. The plan was to cover the roadbed with a stratum of pounded stone 18 inches thick in the middle and decreasing each way to 12 inches. The grades were also cut down, so

as nowhere to exceed four degrees.

The rates of toll were graded according to the width of the wagon tires, wheels of 12 inches paying two cents, while those of four inches were taxed one-eighth of a dollar. This distinction was made to prevent the cutting up of the road.

The new road at this point was laid out considerably north of the old road. As the traffic increased, a large addition fronting on the pike was built; it measures 81 by 33 feet, and was completed about 1812. Passenger and stage travel was now at its height; the Paoli became a stage stand of the first order, and the reputation for good cheer and clean beds was widespread and known to all travellers.

A traveller, describing his sojourn at the inn at this period (1813), says: "Here a scene of bustle unprecedented by anything I had ever met before presented itself till midnight. Supper was three times spread for at least twenty people, and, as the chambers were not very numerous, we were under the necessity of agreeing amongst ourselves for bedchambers. My partner was a merchant with whose conversation I had been pleased during the evening, and we were shown along the passages to a remote room. We were aroused at 4 o'clock in the morning to proceed on our journey to the city."

Joshua Evans (1) continued in charge until April 23, 1814, when he was succeeded by his son Joshua (2), who soon became one of the most prominent and best known men in Chester county, who exercised a great power in both county and State, while the inn continued to reap the advantages from the prestige of its owner and the increased travel. In 1826 a post-office was established at the inn, of which Joshua Evans was appointed Postmaster.

#### **The Philadelphia and Columbia Railroad.**

About this time (1826-27) a serious danger threatened the old tavern stand, that of being cut off from the line of travel. The new railroad, as surveyed by Mr. Haines, under the direction of Major John Wilson, passed from the "Warren," north of the Valley Ridge by way of Howeltown, recrossing to the south a short distance northwest of the present flourishing town of Wayne. This original survey occupies almost the identical course of the new Trenton cut off of the Pennsylvania Railroad, built during the present year.

As will be noticed, the Paoli would have been entirely away from the new enterprise. Joshua Evans, who in the meantime had been elected to Congress, invited the engineers and officials to his house, and, under the influence of a good dinner and its accessories, the Board were convinced that they were wrong in their surveys, and the road was located to run immediately in the rear of the old inn.

The railroad as built in 1832 was entirely different from the magnificent quadruple roadbed of the Pennsylvania Railroad of the present day. It consisted of but a single track, formed partly of stone sills and partly of wooden rails plated with flat bars of iron, the space between the rails being filled in with broken stone for the horses to travel on.

The early cars were small four-wheeled affairs, modeled after the favorite stage coach; these were drawn by two horses tandem and carried passengers on top as well as inside.

The first car to pass over the new highway, October 18, 1832, carried the United States mail and thirty passengers and was drawn by two horses. It went from Belmont to



the West Chester intersection (Malvern).

The Paoli now, for the time, became the terminus for the Pittsburg stages, passengers being taken into the city by the horse cars from this point.

It was not until 1836 that steam supplanted horse power, Joshua Evans, to

keep up with the new condition of travel, established a wood yard for the use of the State road, and here all trains stopped for wood and water while the travellers refreshed themselves. A toll collector was also stationed at this point by the State and substantial offices erected. This building can still be seen at the left of the railroad bridge. Freight houses were also established. Thus it will be seen, that, while the building of the railroad eventually had a disastrous effect upon the turnpike hostleries, the tact and influence of General Evans made the old inn one of the most important points on the new highway as well as on the turnpike. In addition to this the old Paoli was the polling place for five townships. Frequent cattle sales and vendues were also held in the old tavern yard on the turnpike.

#### Paoli Station.

Shortly before the death of General Evans, in 1843, a separate building was erected, facing the railroad, to accommodate the transient travellers, while the inn proper became a favorite summer resort or boarding house for Philadelphians. The lunch and bar room of this building will yet be remembered by many old travellers as one of the features of the road.

After the death of General Evans the property came into the possession of John D. Evans, who continued to run the inn successfully until 1877, when certain changes were made in the railroad, which was moved to its present position and a new station built, thus cutting off the old inn and more modern barroom from the road. Shortly afterwards (1881) John D. Evans sold the inn with its 350 acres to the "Paoli Improvement Company" from Philadelphia, by whom the tract was laid out into building lots and advertised for sale.

The inn, after an eventful career of over a century as a favorite public house of entertainment for man and beast, was now remodelled, and the old inn yard fenced in so as to make it conform to the modern idea of an exclusive hostelry. These expectations, however, have so far failed to realize.

JULIUS F. SACHSE.

*From Intelligence  
Doylestown Pa.  
Date: Sept 17/92*

#### LOCAL HISTORY.

The East Corner of Old New Britain—The  
Lands of William Beale and Thomas  
Good — John Blankenhorn — Old  
Stone House — The Harding  
Lot and House.

The former east corner of New Britain comprised the region immediately north-east and north of Doylestown and bordering Buckingham. It was the only portion of New Britain that touched the

latter township. It was a slope towards the northwest from the Academy lane to the Easton road and beyond. It is now divided into quite a number of valuable properties, whereon are some fine buildings. Some of the old houses of former times yet remain, such as the one on the Harding lot, the one on the property of A. F. Weisel and the Lloyd house. Within this territory are the main sources of Cook's Run, which, flowing southwest four miles, falls into the Neshaminy at Landis' saw mill, near the village of New Britain. It takes its name from Arthur Cook, an early land holder in Bucks county. A stream in Springfield bears the same name for a similar reason.

Although Joseph Kirkbride held the later Chapman and other properties before the era of settlement, yet his grant did not extend to the Buckingham and Plumstead line. Here was a strip of 690 acres in two pieces, for which George Fitzwater received a patent as late as 1737. Previous to that time and for some time after we may conclude that it remained a forest. This patent extended from the Academy road, or near it, northwest for two or three miles to the slope of the hill above Pine Run and including the former Swartzlander mill. It was a beautiful region of hill and dale, comprising the valleys of Cook's and Pine Run.

We have trace of the sale of 358 acres of the Fitzwater tract in this region to two parties, William Beal and Thomas Good, about or soon after the middle of the last century.

#### THOMAS GOOD.

In 1751 the executors of Fitzwater sold 231 acres from the southern end of his patent to Joseph Richardson, who, the same year transferred to Francis Richardson. It was in 1754 that Thomas Good bought the 231 acres of Francis Richardson. This comprised the present Weiser, Rufe, Mercer, Meredith, and part of the Weisel properties, with other lands. The Goods were one of the older Quaker families of Pennsylvania, and probably of English origin. The descendants of this Thomas Good not only remain in New Britain, but elsewhere in the county. We believe that Thomas Good had previously lived in Abington, or some of the lower townships of Montgomery county.

The deed of 1754 to Good is not on record. In that same year he gave a mortgage for 153 acres of his purchase to Richardson for \$210. This was satisfied five years later. This touched the Plumstead line for forty perches, and some of it was on the east side of the Easton road, near Kirkbride's land. There were two Thomas Goods in succession during the last century. In 1762 the Elder Good and his wife Mary conveyed 128 acres to their son of the same name and which the latter held during the Revolutionary war. Jonathan Good, a carpenter, was also a landholder in New Britain at the same time and probably was another son. Of course the second Thomas Good was a non-military man in 1776, and in 1779 he was assessed for 198 acres. He was so much of a Quaker that he refused to take



to his possessions. The 128 acres conveyed in 1762 between the Goods, Asher and son, included the present Mercer and Meredith properties. The death of the first Thomas Good took place at a date unknown to the writer, that of the second occurred about the beginning of this century.

#### THE BEAL FAMILY.

The Beals were another Quaker family living in this region during the Revolutionary times. William Beal had purchased a piece of the Fitzwater patent before 1750, and this was probably the extreme east corner of New Britain, adjoining Buckingham. His deed is not on record, but it is certain that he held 127 acres. His will was registered March 11th, 1752, and he died while yet a young man. In this document mention is made of his wife, Grace, and two minor sons, Thomas and Joseph, who were to be bound apprentices when Thomas, the younger, was twenty-one. The farm where the testator lived was to be equally divided between them, by a line drawn parallel to the northwest side of the land. The half part where the dwelling stood he gave to Thomas. There was a third son, William. The daughters were Sarah and Elizabeth. His wife, Grace, was the daughter of Matthew Gill. A cousin, William Watson, is mentioned and the will was witnessed by John Fell and John Watson. It is a matter of doubt where William Beal lived, but possibly it was on the site of the later Blankenhorn house, later the residence of John Lloyd. In 1776 there appears the names of Thomas and William Beal among the non-associates, and in 1779 Thomas Beal is assessed as a weaver holding 64 acres. In 1785 only William Beal is on the assessment list. The widow, Grace Beal, survived her husband for over forty years. Her will was registered on the 4th of February, 1794, in which she devised the plantation of thirty acres where she lived to her sons, Joseph and William. Her son Thomas is also mentioned and daughter Sarah Thompson and John Thompson. Joseph, son of Grace Beal, was among those who migrated from New Britain to Virginia.

#### THE HARDING LOT.

The former lot of Wilson Harding is now the property of Thomas Weiser. Here is an old stone house that looks as though it may have stood a century. This was part of the Good property, and the lower end of the long narrow strip of 59 acres sold to Cadwallader Foulke in 1794 by Thomas Good. This piece was more than three-quarters of a mile long, but only from 300 to 500 feet wide. After several transfers Wilson Harding, of Solebury, purchased it of Samuel Harbeson in 1835, for \$648, which paid for fifteen acres. Four other acres were added in 1873. Harding held possession till 1883, when he sold to Henry J. Kohl. The sheriff intervened in 1891 and sold from Kohl to Thomas Weiser.

#### THE SMITH'S FARM, CROSS KEYS.

This farm of 40 acres is on the west corner of the junction of the New Britain and Easton roads. Here is a modern stone house owned by John D. Smith. This was part of the Fitzwater patent, which Francis Richardson, in 1754, sold to Nathan Preston. Before 1759, Preston had sold it to a Welshman named Thomas Pugh.

In 1761 Pugh conveyed the same to Jonathan Worthington. It was an irregular shaped piece, extending along the township line some two thousand feet, and was about 900 feet broad, comprising 46 acres. Already, in 1759, there was a dwelling in which Pugh lived. In the assessment of 1779, Jonathan Worthington is credited with 46 acres, and was so much of a Quaker that he refused to "qualify." He lived here forty years, or till his death in 1801. In 1802; his executors, James Worthington and Cephas Child, sold to Jonathan Large. The later transfers have been: 1814, Large to Moses Dunlap; in 1840, Asher D. Bennett bought of the Dunlap estate; 1846, Bennett to

Albert Phillips; 1858, Phillips to William Steckel; 1866, Steckel to John D. Smith.

Farther up the Swamp road was a piece of twelve acres sold by Thomas Good to Matthew Day in 1765; which bordered Plumstead for forty perches. At a later date, now unknown, Christopher Day, the next owner, gave a lot for a school house, upon which a log school house was erected. This disappeared many years ago, and the school house lot is now included in the Smith farm. Matthew Day lived on the Plumstead side. South of Cross Keys, at some distance from both the Newtown and Easton roads, stands an old stone house now uninhabited. It is of stone and bears the date of 1768, and the initials "J. W. A.," indicating its builder as Jonathan Worthington and wife.

#### THE MEREDITH PROPERTY.

This lies on the west side of the Easton road between the Smith and Mercer places. Here is a handsome dwelling, the home of the family of Aaron Meredith for many years. It was part of the Good tract of 128 acres, transferred from father to son in 1762, and part of 77 acres sold by Thomas Good to Asher Foulke in 1794. In 1796 Foulke sold to Michael Delp 74 acres. In 1804 Delp gave a deed to Edward Rice and his son Jonathan, who held it for thirty years, when a tanner named Aaron Wainbold bought it. Finally in 1852 it was sold to Aaron Meredith, son of Hugh Meredith, of Buckingham.

#### THE WEISEL PROPERTY.

A. Fretz Weisel, the well-known horse dealer, resides on the east side of the Easton road opposite the Meredith house. This is one of several properties acquired by his father, Tobias Weisel, in several townships. At the close of the last century, a blacksmith named Michael Delp was the owner, and who had bought of Asher Foulke. Delp in 1799 sold fifteen acres to Moses Dunlap, who, the previous year, had bought fifteen acres of William Chapman, on which was a house. Asher D. Bennett bought of the Dunlap estate in 1840, and in 1846 it was sold to Tobias Weisel.

#### THE PETER JACKSON LOT.

Everybody in the vicinity of Doylestown has heard of Peter Jackson, the colored man. His house and lot was at the extreme east corner of old New Britain, near the Newtown road. Jackson was the owner for eighteen years. This also appears to have been part of the patrimony of Thomas Good, and a portion of the 77 acres sold by him to



Asher Foulke in 1794. The next year Foulke sold a lot here to Matthew Gill and who the same year sold to William Burgess. These Burgess lands became the property of John Rhoads in 1813. The next transfer was to Daniel Stradling, in 1819, who the same year sold to Isaac Miller. The latter is said to have come from Virginia to Hilltown, where he married Elizabeth Thomas. He was a noted fence maker. After his death his widow sold the lot to John Ross in 1829, and afterwards married Eleazar Bitting, who kept store for many years at New Britain village. She died in 1862. Her son, Thomas Miller, traveled the highways and byways of Warrington and Horsham as a peddler for twenty years, where he was known at every home, till death ended his tramps in 1890. Since the ownership of Jackson ceased in 1849, this lot has been sold very many times, and a few years ago it was owned by Father Stommel, the Catholic priest. Peter Jackson also owned the lot of twelve acres adjoining, more recently held by Albert J. Jones. This was sold by Jackson in 1849 to Tobias Weisel. Since then there have been transfers: 1850, Weisel to Robert M. Lovett; 1857, Lovett to James M. Cadwallader; 1859, Cadwallader to William Steckel; 1863, Steckel to Albert J. Jones.

#### THE LLOYD FARM.

Some three or four hundred yards northwest of the Academy lane there stands an old stone farm house surrounded by shade trees. In a depression west of the dwelling stands the stone spring house. This spring is one of the sources of Cook's Run. Part of the farm land slopes rapidly to the northwest.

This was the Blankenhorn farm during the earlier decades of the present century, and in colonial times was the Beal homestead. In 1794, after their mother's death, Joseph and William Beal sold their house and thirty acres to John Blankenhorn. At that time Joseph lived in Loudon county, Virginia, and William in Warwick. Blankenhorn paid £235. We find the name of this John Blankenhorn appended as a witness to the marriage certificate of James Meredith, of Warwick, and Abi Fell, of Buckingham, before Alderman Hillary Baker in Philadelphia, in 1792. He lived on this small farm for many years. His will was registered September 10th, 1822. Probably he had no children. Mention is made of sisters, Mary Johnson and Martha Blankenhorn. In 1823, his executors, Jonathan Large and David Stradling, sold to Massey Brock, for \$1200. Since then nobody held it for any length of time, except John Lloyd, who was the owner for sixteen years. The transfers have been 1828, John Brock to John McIntosh; 1833, McIntosh and wife Pamela to Henry Clymer, who had married Esther, daughter of Hugh Meredith, of Buckingham; 1839 Clymer to John Bollinger; 1854, Bollinger to John Lloyd. The latter was the father of E. Morris Lloyd, the well-known lawyer, who died in Doylestown of a cancer in 1874. At first a Democrat, he afterwards became prominent in Republican local politics. The ownership of John Lloyd lasted till 1870 when he sold to Andrew J. Larue. The latter sold in 1871 to Andrew Scott. Larue was from New Jersey in early life, and during his residence in Bucks county, he was active in Democratic

politics. He died in Doylestown from a chronic disease of the liver, in 1876. Andrew Scott sold to James M. Cathers in 1873, and who, the same year, transferred to Preston Price.

Fronting the old Lloyd farm and separating it from the Academy lane was a narrow strip of territory which was in New Britain, but which in colonial times belonged to a large plantation on the Warwick side. In 1799 Benjamin Kirk sold this to Lewis Lewis. In 1802 Lewis conveyed to John Pennington. In 1808 the will of Pennington ordered sale of so much of his lands as were in New Britain. Since then this strip, including the lot of Albert Jones, has belonged in turn to a great number of owners—not less than a dozen in number.

#### THE MERCER PROPERTY.

This property, at the junction of the Dublin turnpike and the Easton road, has long been one of the most finely improved in the vicinity of Doylestown. The handsome dwelling is surrounded with a beautiful lawn, adorned and shaded by trees, shrubbery and flowering plants. Cook's Run flows in front of the mansion, its vagrant waters curbed within a walled channel and crossed by rustic bridges. This has long been the property of Mrs. Mary R. Mercer, one of the daughters of Hon. Henry Chapman, who married William R. Mercer.

This was contained within the limits of the Good plantation, and was afterwards held by the Shaws. In 1794 Thomas Good sold 59 acres, including this to Cadwallader Foulke. John Shaw became the owner about the beginning of the present century. He held two pieces of 45 and 12

acres, the latter obtained in 1803 of Jonathan Good and David Kirkbride. The Shaws lived here for nearly thirty years. In 1821 the executor of John Shaw sold to William Shaw, one of the sons. In 1828 it came into possession of Joseph Clark. After his death his executors, Samuel Kachline and John B. Pugh, sold to James Clark. Thereafter the transfers were: 1853, James Clark to John Weikle; 1853, Weikle to William Beck, founder of the Industrial Exposition of 1855; 1856, Sheriff Charles Fellman seized Beck's property and sold to John V. Watson; 1870, Watson to Mary R. Mercer.

E. M.

*Brown Intelligencer*  
Doylestown Pa.  
Date Sept. 23/-92

#### LOCAL HISTORY.

The Plantation of Clement Doyle—Richard Doyle—John Swartzlander—Abraham Delp.

Clement Doyle was one of the three of that family who came from Ireland at an early date and were among the first settlers of this region. The home of Clement, however, was two miles northwest of that of Edward and William Doyle. It was in the Pine Run Valley, on the



southeast side of that stream, and just south of the later Swartzlander mill. Here is a two-story stone house, now owned by Lemuel Carwithen. The farm lands slope up the valley towards the southeast.

It was in 1733 that Clement Doyle bought 148 acres of Joseph Kirkbride, part of a greater tract bought by the latter of the society lands in 1729. On the northwest side for 148 perches was the land of William Wells; on the northeast for just half a mile was the line of Richard Penn; on the southeast for 148 perches was the other land of Kirkbride, the later Chapman farm, and on the southwest was the line of John Riale, half a mile in length. The Doyle purchase extended to the present cross road, running past the school house, and on the northwest was the line of the present road near Pine Run.

Clement Doyle remained the owner for a lifetime, or nearly forty years. In 1746 he diminished the size of his plantation by selling 43½ acres to Thomas Holcombe. This was a narrow strip 800 feet wide but half a mile long, lying along the present Dublin turnpike. It became afterwards incorporated with the Swartzlander lands. Doyle doubtless made the first improvements on the Carwithen place, and built a house in or soon after 1733. He was a Baptist and his name and that of his wife Margaret appears on the list of twenty-three constituent members of New Britain church, organized November 28th, 1754. Their names appear also in the list of forty-nine members in 1770. His death took place in the early spring of 1772, and his wife survived him. In his will, registered April 11, 1772, mention is made of three sons, John, Jonathan and Richard, and of two daughters, Rebecca and Margaret Evans. To Richard was devised his real estate, comprising 105 acres in New Britain. The others received legacies; the daughters £18 each and the sons £60 each. These sons all soon disappeared from the township, and their names do not appear on the list of taxables or signers of the oath of allegiance. Jonathan married Ann Mathew, daughter of John Mathew, on the 11th of January, 1769, and afterwards removed to the Buffalo Valley. Richard only held brief possession of his inheritance, as the same year he sold it in two pieces. One of these was 70 acres, which he conveyed to the second Thomas Good. This was from the southwest side of the farm adjoining the Riale property, and twenty-one acres of it was sold in 1794 by Good to Joshua Riale.

In 1772 Doyle also conveyed the remainder of his land, comprising 35 acres on the northeast side, to Abraham Freed, a miller, for £131—a price that indicated no buildings. This was a narrow strip, but half a mile long.

Concerning this Abraham Freed we have only a slight knowledge. He was a young man, and owned some other land along the Plumstead line. There is a large family of Freeds in Montgomery county. They are descended from Jan Freed, a Hollander and a Mennonite, who came to America about 1730 and settled in Skippack. Some of his descendants are in Bucks county. The wife of Abraham Freed was Salomé, daughter of Jacob Stout. She was born in 1743. The

fact that Freed was a miller indicates that he may have been employed in the mill of his father-in-law, who for several years prior to the Revolution, owned the later Swartzlander mill. Freed died at the early age of thirty-two, on the 21st of December, 1772, and was interred in the old Day burying ground on the Plumstead side of the Dublin turnpike. There his tombstone may be seen to this day. His widow soon after married Gabriel Swartzlander. She survived also her second husband, and died September 18th, 1827, at the age of eighty-four. Her maiden name was Stout, and she was stout and strong in reality. Tradition says that she could easily carry a three-bushel bag of wheat or corn into the mill.

It may readily be perceived that Freed's portion of the old Doyle farm soon came into possession of Gabriel Swartzlander, who married his widow. The history of the farm for the next generation is merged in that of the Swartzlander estate. In 1813 John Swartzlander, son of Gabriel, received this from his father. The latter was born September 26th, 1774, and died before mid-life, on the 18th of April, 1815, of typhoid fever. He lies buried with others of the name at the Mennonite meeting house. The children of John Swartzlander were two daughters, Deborah and Ann. The latter became the wife of Hon. William Godshalk, afterwards Congressman for four years from this District. Deborah married Abraham Delp, and lived on her father's homestead. The present Carwithen house was built by John Swartzlander, about 1811, a short time before his marriage to Mary Overpeck, of Springfield, and in fact was not quite completed at the time of his death. The older Doyle House was at a little distance away from the site of the present dwelling. The spring near by is a very lasting one in time of draught. The Swartzlander family came into possession of this house and 48 acres here soon after 1806 by purchase of heirs of Ann Schweitze, who had bought of Morris Morris in 1797. Morris bought of Hiram Good in 1794, who had held the Doyle homestead since 1772.

This property was owned by Abraham Delp for many years, or till 1842. In that year his heirs conveyed to another Abraham Delp, his son. The second generation of Delp ownership passed away, and in 1879 his administrators conveyed 71 acres to Lemuel Carwithen, the present owner. E. M.

*From Record  
Phila. Pa.  
Date. Oct. 15/92*

#### THE SCHWENKFELDERS.

A PAPER READ BEFORE THE BUCKS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY BY ISAIAH A. ANDERS.

Before presenting to your notice the subject of this paper it may be well to refresh the mind with some of the great historical events of the past in order that we may better comprehend the results that followed; events of great moment and following each other in such rapid succession that nations



quaked with fear and wondered what the next revolution of the wheel of time would unfold, and well may the student of history stop and ponder with amazement at the magnitude of the result these changes wrought in the history of the world.

The discovery of America by Columbus was the first link in the chain of events that followed each other with kaleidoscopic swiftness, and even the most bigoted skeptic is almost compelled to admit that it seemed as though this was the plan laid out by the Author and Finisher of the Universe to prepare a haven of refuge for the persecuted and down-trodden people of the world. The slumbering fires of religious dissension had not then broken forth to any marked extent, with the exception of the expeditions of the Crusaders some centuries before, and the conquest of the Moors by Ferdinand and Isabella of Spain, just prior to the discovery of America by Columbus.

We will now pass to another event of great historic interest which convulsed entire Europe and opened a scene of strife and dissension, bloodshed and death, sorrow and desolation, that the nations trembled with fear at the possible final result, and in which kings and emperors, plebeian and patrician, side by side, took issue and bravely awaited the fate in store for them. Such was the actual state of affairs ushered in by the advent of the Reformation inaugurated by Martin Luther, the history of which, with its succeeding train of events, consisting of persecution, unflinching steadfastness to principles as involved in religious belief, hunger, torture, the horrors of the inquisition, separation of family, friend and relative, and finally death itself, formed another massive link in this ponderous chain of events, which terminated by these devotees of the faith they so much loved, even unto death, seeking for a spot on this earth where they might enjoy this one great boon without fear or molestation, and which was found by the first band of religious exiles on New England's rock bound coast on the 21st of December, 1620.

Passing along over the pages of history we stop at another important epoch, and we see the picture of a man in plain garb standing before Charles the II of England entreating for a spot in the new world to be given him where he might found a settlement for those to whom civil and religious liberty was a priceless boon.

The King yields to the petition and now the scene changes, and we see the same unassuming man beneath the wide spreading branches of an elm tree in conference with the red man of

the forest, paying them for their land and concluding a treaty which was "never sworn to and never broken"—and while many of the colonists in the new world located for motives of pecuniary interest and self emolument, religious liberty being a secondary consideration, Pennsylvania was to be the home of those to whom religious liberty was the prime factor in the pursuit of happiness and future welfare.

There is no spot in all this broad land wherein there may be found such a great variety of sects as within the limits of the grant allowed William Penn. This is not to be marveled at when we recall the fact that to this end Penn labored, while even in New England the Puritans, who themselves had endured the pangs of persecution, were inclined to persecute those who took exception to their views. So many and various are the sects that it will be unnecessary to name the leading denominations, who are well known to all the members of this society. The Moravians are comparatively well known, so also the Mennonites, but the Amrish, the Harralites, and finally the Schwenkfelders, of whom this paper will treat, are unknown, except probably in name only, to most persons, even to those with whom they come in daily contact. Probably many or all of the members of your Historical Society may in a measure be conversant with the local history of the Schwenkfelders, but few know of their past, of the ignominious brutalities and suffering they were the subjects of, all for the view they took in reference to the Scriptures.

The founder of this peculiar people was one Caspar Schwenkfeld, who was born in the year 1490, in a little village called Ossing at that time, but now known as Ossig, in the Principality of Liegnitz, in Lower Silesia. He was a nobleman, ranking high in court circles. He was educated at Cologne and lived for a number of years at various universities on the continent, where his favorite studies were theology and the writings of the church fathers. After leaving the various universities he started on a course of travel, visiting many German courts, devoting some years to the culture which in his time was supposed to benefit his rank, qualifying himself for knighthood and becoming a courtier. While yet a young man he entered the service of Carl, Duke of Munsterberg, at whose court the doctrines of John Huss were received, and by none more heartily than by the young knight and courtier. They made a lasting impression upon his mind and doubtless gave direction to his future life and labors.

Being unfitted by bodily infirmities



for knightly duties he quitted the service of the Duke of Munsterberg and became Counsellor to Frederick II, Duke of Liegnitz, whom he served in that capacity a number of years. Theology, however, had stronger attractions than affairs of State. He made the acquaintance of many theologians who were drifting in the direction of the Reformation, and under the influence of such associations and the impressions already received he withdrew from the ducal court and was chosen Canon of St. John's Church at Liegnitz.

Luther had now withdrawn from the Church of Rome and his doctrine attracted the attention of Schwenkfeld, who fell in with Luther upon the issues at stake, and he forthwith renounced his position as canon of St. John's and became an evangelist. While Schwenkfeld was not inclined to be a controversialist, it was not long before he and the great Reformer began to differ on points of doctrine, which eventually led to a meeting between the two at Wittenberg, in September, 1525, where a personal interview was held, resulting in a seeming agreement on the question at stake, but which eventually drifted them far apart.

Trouble now began to thicken. Cut off from fellowship with the Lutherans, Schwenkfeld was none the less an outcast from the Catholics. Even Ferdinand, King of Bohemia and Hungary, and afterward Emperor of Germany, whose liberality to the Protestants brought him into disfavor at Rome, could not tolerate his doctrine, and consequently ordered the Duke of Liegnitz to suppress Schwenkfeld and his teachings, Silesia being tributary at that time to the Bohemian Kings. But the friendship formed while he was counsellor to the Duke forbade compliance with the King's edict. But while the Duke disobeyed the command of the King to repress Schwenkfeld, he was powerless to protect his friend, and therefore urged him to retire from Silesia for a time, until toleration should be granted once more at the royal court.

After receiving this kindly advice from his friend and heretofore protector, Schwenkfeld left Silesia in 1529 for a tour through Germany, and as it afterward proved, never to return to his native land. This event then gave rise to a statement circulated by his enemies at the time, and has since been repeated by some German writers, that he had been expelled by the Duke at the solicitation of the King, but which was refuted, both by him by the fact of his continued friendly correspondence with the Duke until the latter's death. From that time on he moved about

from city to city defending his doctrines in public discussions with learned men and before the magistrates at Augoburg, Nurnburg, Strasburg and Ulm and other cities. His life was one of unremitting labor. Besides preaching he maintained correspondence with learned men and those high in rank throughout Germany and Switzerland.

After thirty-six years of severe toil with voice and pen, he died at the city of Ulm, on the 10th of December, 1562, leaving a name unspotted by any charge except that of heresy and that only in respect to his doctrine. His opponents accorded him the praise of possessing great learning combined with modesty and piety. Although the purpose was never entertained by Schwenkfeld to establish an independent sect, he had, so far as successful teaching was concerned, prepared the way for it. Many clergymen, noblemen and other influential and learned men throughout Silesia and Germany and other localities, especially at Liegnitz and Jauer, the almost entire population embraced his doctrine, but their prosperity was short lived. State reasons inclined the Princes' to favor the larger following of the other Reformers, even Frederick II, whose friendship for Schwenkfeld had never abated, yielded to the dominant influences and dismissed the court preacher, but while he lived he exercised no severity to the people in his dominions.

After his death they fared worse. They came into dire disfavor with both Protestants and Catholics. They were called Schwenkfelders in derision—a name which they accepted—and they were stigmatized by almost every name supposed to convey reproach. Frederick III, who succeeded to the Principality at the death of Frederick II, determined to stamp them from his dominions and consequently issued a decree against them imposing among other things a fine of 500 florins upon any person who would harbor a Schwenkfelder, at the same time ordering all their books to be seized and burned.

These stringent measures had an effect quite contrary to that intended. The number of Schwenkfelders increased rather than diminished. Persecutions followed persecution until about the year 1580, when it seemed that every ingenuity that man could devise was employed to exterminate these people. No clergyman would solemnize their marriages; they were dragged about in chains, both men and women, and leading men were expelled from the country. They were arrested and imprisoned in dungeons, where many died from starvation, cold and violence. Others contracted dis-



eases from which they afterward died. Large numbers were sent to Vienna and there condemned without trial to serve in the wars with the Turks or as oarsmen on the Mediterranean galleys and thus passed the weary years until the outbreak of the Thirty Years' War, when the Schwenkfelders accepted the horrors of that prolonged struggle of a grateful change from the cruelties of religious persecution.

After the peace of Westphalia the old persecutions were increased with renewed vigor. Amid all these persecutions, without organization, robbed of their books, which had been burned, they maintained their faith for more than two centuries. Toward the close of the 17th Century this period of intolerance relaxed, large numbers of the young entered the other Protestant denominations, and from that time the Schwenkfelders gradually decreased, until the year 1718 they numbered only a few hundreds, where formerly they had been counted by thousands, and had disappeared entirely from many towns where they had been numerous.

It was not difficult for the enemies of the Schwenkfelders to persuade Charles VI that the treaty of Westphalia in its interdiction of religious persecution did not protect the Schwenkfelders. An imperial edict to this end, that of compelling them to return to the State religion, was issued. Consternation seized the people and persecution stalked throughout the land. Women were placed in stocks and compelled to lie in cold rooms in winter without so much as straw under them. Marriages were forbidden, and when young people went into other countries to be married they were imprisoned on their return. The deed were not allowed Christian burial in the churchyards where their ancestors for many genera-

tions slept, but were required to be interred in cattle-ways, and sorrowing friends were forbidden to follow the remains even to these ignominious resting places. Hundreds of Schwenkfelders were so buried for a period of 20 years, and to prevent escape from the horrible situation the people were forbidden to sell their property or under any pretext to leave the country, and severe penalties were denounced against anyone who should assist a Schwenkfelder to escape. They therefore resolved to escape at all hazards.

The exodus commenced in the month of February, 1726. During that and the following months upwards of 170 families escaped by night from the different towns and villages of Silesia, and fled on foot to Upper Lusatia, then a portion of Saxony. In consequence of the prohibition of the sale of their

property and the police regulations to prevent their emigration, they were obliged to leave their property behind, except such as could be carried upon their backs or on wheelbarrows. The less provident, who had laid up little or no money, found themselves in great destitution among strangers. They were, however, hospitably received and entertained by Count Zenzendorf, and soon after their arrival they received assistance from unknown friends in Holland.

The assistance received from Holland led to a correspondence with their Dutch benefactors, who strongly advised emigration to Pennsylvania. Some had already purchased homes in Lusatia, but subsequent events proved that the hand of persecution would soon follow them even to this temporary shelter. It was ascertained that application had been made for their enforced return to Silesia, and their presence would not be tolerated in Lusatia after the following spring. Soon after the announcement that protection would be withdrawn, two families emigrated to Philadelphia, in Pennsylvania, where they arrived on the 18th of September, 1733. Their report of the country and the advice of the friends in Holland determined about forty families to follow them. They then journeyed to Holland, arriving in Haarlem on the 6th of June. Here they were received with open arms and hospitably entertained by their benefactors of former years.

Just here it will be proper to mention a circumstance showing that "bread cast upon the waters will return after many days." This was shown by the disinterestedness of a mercantile house in Haarlem composed of three brothers named Von Byuschaue. Their attention to the strangers were not limited to seeing that their actual wants were supplied; they endeavored by personal attention to make the stay of the party enjoyable. The little ones especially came in for a full share of their kindly offices. Part of the contributions which had been sent for the relief of the destitute remained unexpended and those having it in charge offered to return it to the donors. The Messrs. Von Byuschaue would not listen to the offer, but directed the fund to be expended for the benefit of the poor people when they should arrive in Pennsylvania, and not content with all they had done they insisted upon providing at their own expense a vessel for the transportation of the whole company to Philadelphia and defraying the entire expense of the voyage. The descendants and successors of the Messrs. Von Byuschaue met with reverses in the year 1790. Information of this fact coming to the



Schwenkfelders in Pennsylvania, they in grateful remembrance of the kindness shown them in childhood more than half a century before raised a large sum of money and sent it to the relief of the distressed house.

The emigrants remained at Haarlem enjoying the munificent hospitality of the Messrs. Von Byuschause until the 19th of June, then proceeded to Rotterdam, where they embarked on an English ship, the *St. Andrew*, which had been chartered for them by their large-hearted friends, and touching at Plymouth, England, they arrived in Philadelphia on the 22nd of September, 1734. On the next day all male persons over 16 years of age proceeded to the State House and there pledged allegiance to George the II, King of Great Britain, and his successors, and of fidelity to the proprietor of the Province. They spent the 24th in Thanksgiving, for deliverance from the hands of their persecutors. This day was set apart to be observed by them and their descendants through all time and is observed to this day. This little band who had passed through so many trials together were now to separate. Some settled in the present limits of the city of Philadelphia, in the neighborhood of Chestnut Hill; others in the present counties of Montgomery, Berks and Lehigh. It is needless to dwell on the privations and hardships of the first few years. They were such as fell to the lot of all the early settlers of Pennsylvania, but this was as naught to the persecutions through which they came.

It was natural to expect that the remaining Schwenkfelders would speedily follow their emigrant brethren, but such was not the case. A change of tactics on the part of the authorities of Silesia gave a comparative rest for a few years. The hour of final deliverance had come. In a short time Charles the II paid the debt of nature and Frederick the Great proclaimed religious freedom in the long mis-governed principalities. He was not content to merely stop religious persecutions, but endeavored to redress the damage even at the expense of the royal treasury. For that purpose he issued an edict in 1742 which reflects the highest honor upon himself, and when the insignificance of their numbers is considered, pays a flattering tribute to the worth of the exiled Schwenkfelders. In this edict everything of which they had been deprived of, even to the return of land property and money value, was to be returned and full protection in every form was to be granted them, but much as they loved their fatherland, none of the Schwenkfelders in Pennsylvania availed themselves of the royal invitation. They had become attached to the government in which

they enjoyed absolute freedom and a measure of prosperity that promised better things in the future than the restoration of their estates in Silesia.

They continued by untiring industry to accumulate of the wealth and land of their newly chosen home and have not been deficient in giving to their adopted countrymen of intellect and social standing, and men who have been, become famous in church and state.

Their houses of worship are plain and primitive, no display of architectural beauty or costly finishings—no gilded dome or tapering spire—no chime of bells to summon the faithful to worship. But with simplicity and humility they worship the God of their fathers as in days of yore. To attend one of their services is certainly impressive on account of its rural simplicity, notwithstanding the stranger would pause in reverence at the humble manner of worship. The male and female portions of the assemblage occupy separate parts of the house. Their music is of the kind that would indicate the singing of a requiem (being mostly in a minor key), and a feeling of sadness pervades the place.

The Schwenkfelders are given mostly to agricultural pursuits, and son follows father in the same line generation after generation. They are thrifty and economical, and as a consequence it is a rarity to find a poor Schwenkfelder. Their farms are models of what can be accomplished, and they take great pride in their barns and stock. They are peaceable and law-abiding and shun strife and legal broils. They take care of their poor, and none who remain in their fold is ever thrown upon public charity. No poor man or beggar ever approaches in vain for food or shelter at their door, nor turns away in distress.

It may be very properly asked why they do not increase in numbers as other denominations, and can be answered by saying that they never ask any persons outside of those born in their faith to become a part of them—while many of their young have been received into other denominations.

Some of them have risen high on the pinnacle of fame—others have risen to prominence in other professions, having ably filled positions of responsibility and trust. Some have been elected to represent their districts in the halls of Congress, some in the Senate and House of Representatives at Harrisburg; others have risen to prominence at the bar of justice, even to the filling a place on the Supreme bench; many have become scholars of note, having attained proficiency in the arts and sciences. Some have risen to eminence in the science of medicine, and



one to the highest gift within the power of the people to bestow, namely, that of the Governor of the State of Pennsylvania, and was even a nominee at one of the conventions for the highest position in the gift of the people of the United States—a brave and tried soldier who fought his way from comparative obscurity to that of a General—I refer to the late John F. Hart-ranft.

Some years since the Schwenkfelders sent one of their representative men to Silesia to ascertain what had become of the estates left behind and the probable result of an effort to recover the wealth left behind in their flight. He returned with no hope of its recovery, owing to the proclamation which had been made by Frederick for the return of the Schwenkfelders to their estates and wealth, and which had not been accepted by them. In conclusion, what more fitting or appropriate words can be said of them than is contained in those admirable stanzas of Mrs. Hemans, so familiar and yet never wearying:

"Not as the conquerer comes, they, the true heart-  
ed came;

Not with roll of stirring drum and the trumpet  
that sings of fame;

Not as the flying come, in silence and in fear:

They shook the depths of the desert gloom with  
their hymns of lofty cheer.

What sought they thus afar, bright jewels of the  
mine?

The wealth of seas? the spoils of war? they  
sought a faith's pure shrine.

Ay! call it holy ground, the soil where first they  
trod;

They have left unstained what there they found  
—freedom to worship God."

## The American.

MEDIA, PA., SEPTEMBER 29, 1886.

[For the American.]

### THE MILFORD REBELLION AGAINST HOUSE TAX--- LED BY JOHN FRIES.

In April, 1799, the hero of the Milford rebellion, John Fries, was captured in a swamp near Bunker Hill, betrayed in his hiding place by the affectionate treason of his little dog "Whiskey." He was a native of Hatfield township, Montgomery county, but after his marriage removed to Milford and built a little log cottage for his bride on the lands of Joseph Galloway, the traitorous foe of the Patriots of 1776.—As early as the year 1775, the Germans numbered half the population of Pennsylvania. As a class they were men of education, strong enthusiasts of church song and universally loyal to the American cause. Yet withal too aggressive in some of their special claims afterwards. The

latter was particularly noticeable in Milford township, Bucks county, for many years previous, practically a German settlement. A thrifty money-making class with large families who intermarried and settled there, they became averse to direct taxation.

The "house" tax which led to the Milford rebellion encountered at once fierce opposition, especially among the parsons, who regarded it as a great damper on the matrimonial ventures of their people—a great mine of wealth in church reckonings. One Rev. Jacob Eyerman, fresh from Germany, came out in a violent manner against "house" taxation. In Pennsylvania Dutch, the welding together of the different dialects of German States and Switzerland, accented with a slight admixture of English to give it flavor, he managed to make them understand that the National Government only made these laws to rob the people and that they were nothing but a party of rogues or "Spitz bubes." The parson had no house to assess, but when told his books were to be taxed made reply—"that he would bring the agent of the law a Latin, Greek or Hebrew book and that if he could not translate it he would slap him with it about the ears till it would fall into pieces." Still Eyerman was a good preacher and orthodox enough to pray for the government in the pulpit, but all during the week his prayers took different shape. Sooner than submit he avowed his willingness to hang his black coat on a rail, fight for the whole week and preach on Sundays. A warrant being issued for his arrest with several other ringleaders, he was conveyed to the Sun Tavern in Bethlehem, for safe keeping, in March, 1799. After the rescue from here he fled to New York, but being particularly wanted on a charge of conspiracy, he was brought back, imprisoned for one year with a fine of \$50 and to enter security for future conduct.

John Fries, whose opinions coincided with those of the fighting parson, was the most active organizer of the insurgents in the Milford rebellion. He was a cooper by trade, talked well and was very popular. Adopting the occupation of a "vendue crier," in company with his little dog Whiskey, he traversed the country sides, presiding at many town meetings, where his off-hand eloquence swayed the multitudes. Armed with an immense horse pistol, attended by his faithful lieutenants, Getman and Heany, the country was scoured in search of assessors. At a meeting in John Kline's house, to consider the question of house taxes, Fries threatened to shoot a man named Foulke through the



legs, if he persisted in assessment. On another occasion at a public vendue, he compelled an officer named Clarke, to step out, or he would commit him to an "old stable to feed on rotten corn." In vain the government tried to propitiate the rebels by changing the assessors or allowing the people to choose for themselves. Fries declared he would never submit—that he could raise 600 men in one hour to back his resolutions. In Milford scarcely one could be found, bold enough to stand up for the efficacy of the law.—When matters come to a crisis by the imprisonment of the fighting parson, and many other suspects, in the Sun Tavern at Bethlehem, Fries headed a company of 200 men in Milford, who in martial uniform, to the music of a fife and drum corps, proceeded to Bethlehem to rescue the prisoners. Right royally advancing, with a feather in his hat and sword by his side, he halted his command of cavalry and infantry at the bridge, where a deputation from the marshall tried to induce them to withdraw from further lawless attempts. "We shall take our friends by force if necessary," said Fries, "and fire away till the clouds of smoke obscure your vision. He directed his companions to do the best they could, as he expected to fall first." Pending the negotiations with the deputation which seemed to be in order, Fries settled for "toll," and soon stood before the Sun Tavern with his men. The marshall being overawed the suspects were at liberty. At length the strong arm of the military was invoked; President Adams sent a force to quell the rebellion, and to put the law of direct taxes on houses, in effective operation. In April, 1799, John Fries was captured in a swamp near Bunker Hill, his whereabouts being discovered by the presence of his little dog Whiskey. He was tried for treason, found guilty and on a second trial, the judgment being reaffirmed, was sentenced to be hanged. He was afterwards pardoned by President Adams, and returned to the famous log cottage on Boggy creek, resuming his old occupation of vendue crier. Again we meet him followed in his various wanderings by his little dog Whiskey. Faithful patriotic services during the revolutionary struggle, were the cause of executive clemency. On more than one occasion, when the British held Philadelphia, Fries distinguished himself by heading a party of sturdy neighbors and intercepting the English "light horse," who were driving stolen cattle to the city.—About 31 were convicted and sentenced to various degrees of punishment for the Milford rebellion. PHILIP LENNON.

# DOYLESTOWN DEMOCRAT

DOYLESTOWN, PA., JANUARY 10, 1888

## The Boundaries of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

*Bucks*  
A PAPER READ BEFORE AN INTER STATE HISTORICAL MEETING OF THE HISTORICAL SOCIETIES OF BUCKS COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, AND HUNTERDON COUNTY, NEW JERSEY, TUESDAY, JULY 26, 1887, AT DEER PARK, SOLEBURY, BUCKS COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, BY HON. J. SIMPSON AFRICA.

The boundaries of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, as they are delineated on the maps of the present day, show more symmetrical outlines than those found in any of the other original colonies. They also show some peculiarities not met with elsewhere. Beginning at Lake Erie, we trace the line southward along a parallel of longitude to the beginning of the 42d degree of latitude, and thence eastward along that parallel to the Delaware river; thence down along the meanderings of that stream to a point twelve miles distant from the court house in New-Castle, Delaware, and thence westward along the arc of a circle described from said court house, until the line between Delaware and Maryland is intersected; thence due north to the northeast corner of Maryland; thence westwardly along another parallel of latitude to the southwest corner of the Commonwealth; thence due north to Lake Erie and north-east along the lake to the place of beginning.

The final adjustment of these boundaries was accomplished after innumerable vexatious and expensive contests extending over a century. These contests were sometimes attended with bloodshed and frequently resulted in the invasion of personal rights and the destruction of property.

To properly understand these boundary disputes it becomes necessary to refer to the claims of the European powers to dominion in North America. The voyage of Columbus in 1492, under the patronage of the crown of Spain, and his discovery of the out-lying island of San Salvador, stimulated other sovereigns to become patrons of navigators bent upon expeditions for the discovery of unknown lands toward the setting sun. The shrewd and thrifty Henry VII., of England, founder of the house of Tudor, then in the prime of life, eagerly accepted the proposition of John Cabot, a Venetian merchant then residing at Bristol, to fit out an expedition. By patent granted by the King, March 5, 1496, Cabot and his three sons, Lewis, Sebastian and Sancious, were authorized "to saile to all parts, countrys and seas of the East, of the West, and of the North, under our banners and ensigns, with five ships, of what burden or quantitie soever they may be, and as many mariners and men as they will have with them in the said ships, and upon their own proper costs and charges, to seek out, discover and find whatsoever isles, countreys, regions or provinces of the heathen and infidels, whatsoever they may be, and in what part of the world soever they may be, which before this time have been unknown to all Christians."

In an expedition under the command of Sebastian, one of the sons, the western continent was touched at Labrador, June 24, 1497. During subsequent voyages the coast was followed southward probably as far as Florida. Upon the explorations and discoveries made by the Cabots and others navigators, rested the claim of England to the soil of the continent from high Northern latitudes southward to Florida and in-



definitely inland--but owing to cares at home demanding the attention of crown and subjects, little was done for more than a century thereafter toward the maintenance of the claim by actual occupancy.

The rich trade of India engrossed the attention of the ruling powers and commercial circles of Europe, and from efforts made to find a western passage by water to that country, the navigators obtained a more accurate knowledge of the coast lines of the continent which presented itself as an insuperable barrier in their way. Under Elizabeth (1558-1603) several expeditions were fitted out and voyages made to North America by Sir Humphrey Gilbert, Sir Walter Raleigh, Goswold and others; but the attempts at colonization resulted in failure, and practically nothing was accomplished other than to add to the stock of knowledge of the coast lines, and a formal assertion of the claim of the crown to sovereignty over the New World. At the time of the death of Elizabeth, not a single Englishman remained upon its soil.

Henry Hudson, who had previously made a voyage from England in search of a northwestern passage, in 1609, being then in the employ of the Dutch East India company, touched the continent near the entrance of Chesapeake bay, followed the coast to the mouth of the Delaware, and finding it shoal, continued northward toward Sandy Hook, entered New York bay and passed up the river that now bears his name to the head of navigation above Albany. A few years later other navigators under the same company explored the Delaware bay and river. In 1623, the Dutch West India company which had been formed in 1621, took possession of the region visited by Hudson, including the Delaware or South river and the Hudson or North river. Fort Nassau, near Gloucester point, New Jersey, was built in 1623, under the direction of Captain Cornelis Jacobsen Mey, whose name is perpetuated in the designation of a prominent cape at the entrance of the bay. In 1629, Samuel Godyn, by his agents, made a purchase of lands on the western side of the bay extending from Cape Hindlop "upwards about eight large miles." Two years later, in 1631, De Vries, under authority from Godyn, established a colony on Lewes creek and built Fort Oplandt. The settlement made within the limits of Godyn's purchase assumed the name of Zwanendal or "Valley of the Swans." An unfortunate quarrel with the natives resulted in their falling upon the little community and putting them all to death.

Gustavus Adolphus II., King of Sweden, was anxious to plant a colony in America, but before his plans were consummated he lost his life at the battle of Lutzen, November 6, 1632. Under the patronage of his daughter and successor, Queen Christiana, two vessels, with colonists, under the command of Peter Menewe, (or Minuit,) proceeded up the Delaware, in April, 1638, and began a settlement near the site of the present city of Wilmington. A fort and trading house were erected and called Christiana, in honor of the Queen. The Swedes soon after their arrival, purchased from the Indians all the lands on the western side of the Delaware, from Cape Henlopen to the falls of the Delaware at Trenton; and it was determined that all the land ceded should belong to the Swedish crown forever. A deed was executed and sent home to Sweden to be preserved in the Royal archives. A second lot of colonists arrived under Lieut. Col. John Printz, and subsequently, from time to time, the settlements received accessions from the mother country.

The Dutch, resolving to regain their possessions on the Delaware, in the fall of 1655, sent a fleet of armed vessels from New Amsterdam up the Delaware, captured the Swedish defenses and assumed the government of the colony.

Charles II., of Great Britain, (1600-1685,) from motives of commercial policy, resolved to break the peace that had existed for many years between England and Holland, and with that view, proposed to reassert the English claim to the territory then occupied by the Dutch on the western continent, and to force them to relinquish their control of the same. Accordingly, on the 12th of March, 1664, King Charles granted to his brother James, Duke of York and Albany, a patent for all the territory occupied by the Dutch east of Delaware bay. Colonel Richard Nichols, Colonel George Cartwright, Sir Robert Carre and Samuel Maderick were appointed commissioners and dispatched in August following to seize upon New Netherlands (the designation given to the Dutch possessions). The forts upon the Hudson capitulated, and an armed expedition under Sir Robert Carre ascended the Delaware to capture the Dutch defences there. On the first day of October the Dutch peacefully surrendered. The articles of capitulation protected the Dutch and Swedes in their estates, real and personal, and guaranteed them liberty of conscience in church discipline as before. Dutch control on the waters of the Delaware was then permanently ended, with the exception of a brief interval from August, 1673, until the autumn of 1674.

In June, 1680, William Penn petitioned King Charles II., for the grant of a province in America, on the west side of the Delaware. The prayer of the petition was considered at several meetings of the Privy Council by the Chief Justice, Attorney General and other persons in authority, and finally, all questions having been examined and settled, Letters Patent were signed by the King, on the 4th day of March, 1681. The territory granted is described therein as follows: "All that Tract or Parte of land in America with all the Islands therein conteyned as the same is bounded on the East by Delaware River from twelve miles distance Northwards of New Castle Towne unto the three and fortieth degree of Northerne Latitude, if the said river doeth extend soe farre Northwards. But if the said River shall not extend soe farre Northward, then by the said River soe farre as it doth extend, and from the head of the said River, the Easterne Bounds are to bee determined by a Meridian Line, to bee drawne from the head of the said River, unto the said three and fortieth degree. The said Lands to extend westward five degrees, in longitude to bee computed from the said Easterne Bounds, and the said Lands to bee bounded on the North by the beginning of the three and fortieth degree of Northern Latitude, and on the South by a Circle drawne at twelve miles distance from New Castle, Northward and Westwards unto the beginning of the fortieth degree of Northerne Latitude, and then by a streight line westwards to the Limitt of Longitude above menconed."

Penn, on the 10th day of April, 1681, commissioned his cousin William Markham, a captain in the British army, as deputy and authorized him to go to the newly acquired province, call a council, secure a recognition of Penn's authority on the part of the inhabitants, to settle boundaries between adjacent provinces, etc. The Proprietary, discovering that his province was remote from the ocean, and that access thereto by vessels could be gained only by long passage up the Delaware, became anxious to secure title to the remaining possessions of the Duke of York, lying between the province and the ocean. The negotiations resulted in the Duke executing to Penn, on the 20th day of August, 1682, a quit-claim deed for all his estate and interest in the lands described and granted by the charter of the 4th of March, 1681, and on the 22d day of the same month, two other deeds, one for "All that the town of New Castle



otherwise called Delaware, and all that tract of land lying within the compass or circle of twelve miles about the same, situate, lying and being upon the river Delaware in America, and all islands in the said river Delaware, and the said river and soil thereof, lying north of the southernmost part of the said circle of twelve miles about the said town;" and the other for: "All that tract of land upon Delaware river and bay, beginning twelve miles south from the town of New Castle, otherwise called Delaware, and extending south to the Whorekill, otherwise called Cape Henlopen."

Maryland was granted to Cecilius Calvert, Lord Baltimore, by letters patent from King Charles I., dated June 20, 1632. The grant was for a certain country *not then cultivated and planted, though in some parts thereof inhabited by certain barbarous people having no knowledge of Almighty God, and* is thus described in the patent: "All that part of a peninsula lying in the parts of America between the ocean on the east, and the bay of Chesapeake on the west, and divided from the other part thereof by a right line drawn from the promontory or cape of land called Watkins Point, (situated in the aforesaid bay, near the river of Wighco, on the west, unto the main ocean on the east; and between that bound on the south, unto that part of Delaware bay on the north which lieth under the 40th degree of north latitude from the equinoctial, where New England ends; and all that tract of land between the bounds aforesaid, i. e., passing from the aforesaid bay called Delaware bay, in a right line by the degree aforesaid unto the true meridian of the first fountain of the river Pattoumeck, and from thence trending towards the south unto the further bank of the aforesaid river, and following the west and south side thereof, unto a certain place called Cinquack, situate near the mouth of said river, where it falls into the bay of Chesapeake, and from thence by a straight line, unto the aforesaid promontory and place called Watkins Point." The description of these boundaries is remarkably clear and accurate in the light of the limited knowledge of the geography of the country then possessed by the Europeans, and there would be no difficulty in defining them upon the ground to-day. The letter of Baltimore's patent would give him all of the State of Delaware, and his northern boundary, the 40th degree, would include the larger part of the built portion of the city of Philadelphia and would pass through Pennsylvania near Lancaster, Bedford and Somerset; while Penn's southern boundary, the beginning of the 40th degree, would reach down almost to the District of Columbia.

It is well to observe here that the only authoritative map extant at the time Baltimore's patent was issued was the one drawn by Captain John Smith, upon which the line of the 40th degree was made to cross the Delaware south of New Castle. Some of the errors contained in this map were continued down as late as 1681, and doubtless in some measure gave rise to subsequent disputes, when observations for latitude were more accurately made.

Baltimore looked with jealousy upon the settlements made by the Swedes and Dutch along the Delaware within the bounds of his patent, and made grants of land near New Amstel (New Castle) and at other points in the vicinity; and in 1659 his governor, Josiah Fendal, sent a commission to New Amstel to report his claims and insist upon their recognition; but the Dutch, then in possession, gave them no countenance. The Dutch and Swedish settlements having been effected before Baltimore's patent was granted, would by the terms of the patent be excepted from Baltimore's grant. Failing in his efforts with the Dutch, Penn had no sooner taken, by his agents, formal possession of his province, than Balti-

more revived his claim to the 40th degree. They received no more consideration than had been given them by the Dutch; but the contest, vexatious and expensive, was yet to be protracted for three-quarters of a century.

After fifty years had been spent in futile efforts to adjust the boundaries between Maryland and Pennsylvania and the three annexed counties, both the original proprietaries being dead, their respective representatives entered into an agreement on the 10th day of May, 1732, in which it was covenanted that the circle around New Castle, or so much thereof as is requisite, should be marked out at the distance of twelve English statute miles from the town; that a due east and west line should be run from the ocean across the peninsula to the Chesapeake bay, and from the central point on said line a straight line should be run northward tangent to the New Castle circle; and from the tangent point a line should be run due north until it reaches the latitude of fifteen English statute miles due south of the most southern part of the city of Philadelphia; and thence a due west line should be run as far as the province of Pennsylvania extends. The proprietaries of each province appointed commissioners to run these lines; but on various pretexts the commissioners on the part of Maryland so delayed and thwarted the work that it was not completed within the time fixed in the agreement. In 1738 new sets of commissioners met upon the ground with a like result. Baltimore raised various objections to the execution of the agreement of 1732, but all of them were overruled by Lord Chancellor Hardwick in his decree pronounced on the 15th day of May, 1750. In pursuance of this decree, commissioners were appointed and in 1751 a line was run across the peninsula, at the southern end of Delaware; but the death of Charles, Lord Baltimore, occurring in April of that year, further operations were suspended. His son and successor, Frederick, Lord Baltimore, raised objections to the decree of 1750, and a new controversy arose, but before a decision was reached the agreement of the 4th of July, 1760, between the respective proprietaries was entered into. This agreement adopted the points and lines designated in the agreement of 1732 and the decree of 1750. Again commissioners were named and with their respective surveyors they entered upon the discharge of their duties on the 19th day of November, 1760, and from that time until the latter part of October, 1763, they were employed in attempts to trace out the circular line and the tangent line from the middle point on the peninsular east and west line. The agreement between the proprietaries provided that the lines were to be marked by cut stones which were prepared in England and sent over to America as the line progressed. Every fifth stone was engraved with the arms of Lord Baltimore on the side to be set next Maryland, and those of the Penns on the side next their domain. John Lukens and Archibald McClean were surveyors on the part of Pennsylvania, and Thomas Garrett, Jonathan Hall and others on the part of Maryland. Their work was performed amid many difficulties—over swamps and in a dense forest through which vistas had to be cut; and their instruments were of a primitive character. Yet subsequent investigations by the use of the most refined modern instruments attest the remarkable accuracy of their lines. The operations, however, were so tardy that the proprietaries became impatient and on the 4th day of August, 1763, engaged Charles Mason and Jeremiah Dixon to come to America and run-out, mark and settle all such parts of the circle and boundaries as were not then completed.

Provided with a transit, sector and other instruments of precision, they arrived in Philadelphia on



the 15th day of November following. The approach of winter prevented any immediate work in the field, and the time was therefore spent in astronomical observations for the determination of the latitude of the most southern part of the city of Philadelphia, which was ascertained to be 39 degrees, 56 minutes, 29.1 seconds, and also of a point in Chester county on the same parallel. In March and April, 1764, they had run fifteen miles south and fixed a point on the latitude of the southern boundary. The remainder of the season was spent in settling the line between the three lower counties and Maryland. In the spring of 1765, they ran the parallel boundary between Pennsylvania and Maryland to the Susquehanna. Returning to the New Castle circle, they ran due north and at the intersection of the parallel line fixed the northeast corner of Maryland. The running of the parallel line was then resumed and in October the foot of the North mountain, the northwest boundary of the great Cumberland valley was reached. Returning, offsets were laid off and stones set in the tangent line or western line of the three lower counties. The next year, 1766, the line was continued to the foot of Savage mountain, the second ridge of the Allegheny, in Somerset county, which was reached on the 6th of June. Turning eastward on the 18th of that month, a vista or opening was cut through the forest, about twenty-five feet wide, back to the northeast corner of Maryland, where the party arrived on the 25th of September. In July, 1767, the southern line was begun again. The party was escorted by fourteen Indians, deputed by the chiefs of the Six Nations. At the third crossing of Dunkard creek, in the county of Greene, the Indian escort informed the surveyors that they had reached the point at which they were to stop and declined to go further. The surveyors were reluctantly compelled to abandon the idea of extending the line to the end of the 5th degree of longitude, as their instructions called for, and returning, they opened a vista in the true parallel, and set up marks upon the line—hewed mile posts, around each of which a heap of stones or mound of earth was placed—from the western end to Wills' Creek valley, in Bedford county.

On the 29th of January, 1768, Mason and Dixon delivered to Rev. Richard Peters, maps of the lines they had run and thus ended their engagement. They had the honor of being the first surveyors to determine, on this continent, a boundary line from celestial observations. Beside the credit to which they are justly entitled for their scientific knowledge and accuracy, they have obtained enduring fame from the fact that, in the political discussions of the last half century their "vista" was treated as it has become, after the abolition of involuntary servitude in Pennsylvania, the line of demarkation between free and slave territory.

The lines between the two provinces being thus run and plainly marked on the ground, all disputes concerning them ceased and the residents in the respective jurisdictions have enjoyed exemption from strife for almost a century and a quarter.

The site of the city of Pittsburg, known in provincial times as the forks of the Ohio river, was looked upon by both the British and French, who were contending for the occupancy of the Ohio valley, as a strategic point, and both sought to occupy it with defensive works. In 1752, the proprietaries of Pennsylvania, having learned that the authorities of Virginia were preparing to build a fort there to repel an expected invasion by the French, instructed Governor Hamilton to assist in the undertaking, but to exact from Virginia an acknowledgment that such action should not prejudice their rights. Governor Dinwiddie of Virginia, when ready to commence

work on the proposed fort, issued on the 19th day of February, 1754, a proclamation to encourage enlistments, in which he announced his intention to lay out a large tract of land surrounding the forks to be divided among such persons as would enlist in his Majesty's service against the French and Indians. On being remonstrated with by the Governor of Pennsylvania, Dinwiddie, in a letter dated the 21st day of March 1754, alleged that from information imparted by the Virginia surveyors he was misled "if the forks of Monongahela be within the limits of your proprietaries grant." The same year the French forces descended the Allegheny, took formal possession of the country about the head of the Ohio and built Fort Duquesne. No permanent settlements from either colony were made, however, until after the French were dislodged by the forces under the command of Gen. Forbes, in November, 1758. The fort which had been fired by the French on their departure a short time before the arrival of Forbes' forces, was rebuilt and named Fort Pitt, in honor of William Pitt, Earl of Chatham, then prime minister of England.

We have already noticed that Mason and Dixon extended their line as far as Dunkard creek, in October, 1767. The Indian title was purchased by the proprietaries of Pennsylvania in 1768; the Manor of Pittsburg was surveyed for the proprietaries in 1769, and the civil officers of Bedford county, which was formed in 1771, exercised their functions without molestation in the territory north of the line and around Fort Pitt. That part of Bedford lying in the southwestern part of the province was erected into a new county called Westmoreland, by an Act of

Assembly passed the 26th day of February, 1773. About the close of that year a party from Virginia, under the authority of Lord Dunmore, then Governor, took possession of Fort Pitt (which was then unoccupied) and assumed military control of the adjacent country. He arrested Pennsylvania magistrates and enforced on the part of the inhabitants a recognition of the authority of the Virginia government. Dunmore, in his letters and proclamations, ignored the title of the Penns to the lands west of Laurel Hill, which form the eastern boundary of Westmoreland and Fayette, but his sudden flight on the 8th of June, 1775, followed soon after by that of Counelly, the chief of his invading party, put a temporary stop to the hostile attitude of the Virginians, as well as to their occupancy of Pennsylvania territory. But they did not abate their claim, for the Virginia Legislature, by resolutions adopted on the 18th day of December, 1776, proposed as a settlement of the controversy, that the meridian forming the western line of Maryland should be extended northward to the 40th degree of latitude and thence along the same "until the distance of five degrees of longitude from the Delaware shall be accomplished thereon," and thence northward, parallel with the meanderings of the Delaware. Dunmore, however, while in the exercise of executive authority, utterly repudiated the idea of curved lines for the western boundary. His geographical knowledge was evidently very limited, as he asserted that Fort Pitt would be at least fifty miles outside of the limits of Pennsylvania.

During the pendency of this dispute, Virginia encouraged settlements under its government in the valley of the Monongahela, and from time to time organized counties, granted lands, and exercised civil jurisdiction within the charter bounds of Pennsylvania, from 1776 until the 28th of August, 1780. In 1778, Virginia proposed to Pennsylvania to appoint a joint commission to settle the disputes. In March, 1779, our Commonwealth assented to the proposition and commissioners were accordingly ap-



pointed. Those on the part of Virginia were, Rev. James Madison, Rev. Robert Andrews, John Page and Andrew Ellicott, a native of Bucks county; while Pennsylvania was represented by George Bryan, Rev. John Ewing, D. D., pastor of the First Presbyterian church, of Philadelphia, and provost of the University of Pennsylvania, and David Rittenhouse, our eminent mathematician. The joint commission met in Baltimore, on the 27th of August, 1779, and concluded their labors on the 31st of that month, when an agreement was entered into by which Mason and Dixon's line was to be extended "due west five degrees of longitude, to be computed from the river Delaware," and that from the western extremity thereof a meridian line should be drawn to the northern limit of Pennsylvania. In 1780, the agreement was confirmed by the Legislatures of the two States, and commissioners were appointed to run and mark the lines. The extension of Mason and Dixon's line was made late in the fall of 1784, under the direction of Rev. James Madison, Robert Andrews, John Page and Andrew Ellicott, commissioners on the part of Virginia, and John Ewing, David Rittenhouse, John Lukens and Thomas Hutchins, on the part of Pennsylvania. In 1785, David Rittenhouse and Andrew Porter, commissioners on the part of Pennsylvania, and Andrew Ellicott and Joseph Nevill, on the part of Virginia, ran and marked the western line from the southwest corner of Pennsylvania to the Ohio river, and the next year, 1786, the line was extended by Andrew Porter and Alexander McClean to Lake Erie.

The Indian purchase of 1768, having opened to settlement the lands in Pennsylvania, on the head waters of the Delaware, a necessity arose for the determination of the New York line, and in 1774, at the suggestion of the proprietaries of Pennsylvania, a joint commission consisting of David Rittenhouse on the part of this province, and Samuel Holland on the part of New York, set out for that purpose in November of the year named. After spending some days in making the necessary observations to determine the latitude on the western side of the Delaware river, they planted a stone on an island in the river on the 42d parallel and traced the line a short distance westward, but were prevented by the severity of the weather from proceeding further. The unsettled condition of affairs between the colonies and the mother country soon culminating in actual war, further work upon the line was suspended until after the close of the Revolution. Temporary lines were run as guides for the Pennsylvania surveyors in locating land warrants. The Supreme Executive Council of Pennsylvania, on the 16th day of June, 1786, commissioned David Rittenhouse and Andrew Ellicott to survey, establish and mark a permanent line. Rittenhouse was unable to attend, but Ellicott, in conjunction with James Clinton and Simeon DeWitt, extended the line, the same year, from the Delaware to the western side of the south branch of the Tioga river, a distance of ninety miles. The next year Ellicott and Andrew Porter, on the part of Pennsylvania, with Abraham Hardenberg and William Morris, on the part of New York, extended the line to Lake Erie. Thus the southern, western and northern lines of the Commonwealth were originally run, established and marked.

The "Erie triangle," that portion of Erie county lying north of the 42d parallel and between that and Lake Erie, had been ceded during the Revolutionary war, by New York and Massachusetts, to the United States. The General Assembly of Pennsylvania on the 12th of November, 1787, soon after the completion of the running of the northern boundary, authorized and requested the Supreme Executive council to obtain a description of the lands in the triangle

and also an estimate of the sum necessary to purchase such part thereof as might be necessary to accommodate this State. Andrew Ellicott made a survey of the triangle in 1790 by direction of the United States government and reported the area at 202,187 acres for which Pennsylvania paid 75 cents per acre, amounting to \$151,640 25. A patent from the United States confirming the title to this Commonwealth was executed by George Washington, President, on the 3d day of March, 1792. This purchase secured to Pennsylvania a lake frontage and a good harbor at Presque Isle, at the flourishing city of Erie.

In 1849, pursuant to authority conferred by legislation in the respective States, H. G. S. Key, commissioner on the part of Maryland; Joshua P. Eyre, commissioner on the part of Pennsylvania, and Geo. Reade Riddle, commissioner on the part of Delaware, proceeded to survey and determine the point of intersection of the three States and to fix some suitable monument there, the original one having been destroyed. On application to the United States government, Lieutenant Colonel James D. Graham, of the corps of topographical engineers was detailed to conduct the necessary surveys. In his elaborate report, dated the 27th day of February, 1850, he describes the retracing of several of the lines of the States, and the near agreement of his triangulation of the twelve miles radius and the actual measurement of the same by the surveyors of 1761; the difference being only two feet four inches in the twelve miles.

Pursuant to acts of the Legislatures of Pennsylvania and New York, a joint commission was formed for the purpose of resurveying the lines between the two States and permanently marking the same. The field work was commenced in 1877 and completed in 1885. The line was carefully explored and such of the original monuments as remained were replaced by substantial pillars of granite. A number of astronomical stations were established and the relation of the original monuments to the true parallel ascertained and recorded.

The line of 1786-7 having been carried through a dense wilderness wholly devoid of the conveniences of a settled country, the commissioners were compelled to use for monuments such rude stones as were obtainable near the places they were to be set. Frost, storms and forest fires, destroyed many of these monuments, and others were removed by human hands. Of the original mile-stones 122 were found in place; 37 had been removed from their original positions and 65 were missing. During the re-survey there were placed 535 monuments on the parallel boundary, and 51 on the meridian boundary, 226 are mile-stones and the others are placed at the intersection of public roads, county and township corners, and to mark astronomical stations. All, with the exception of the initial monument at the Delaware river, were cut from reddish granite taken from the quarries on Sotis Island, Connecticut, and ought to withstand the action of the elements for centuries to come.

The Ohio line, extending from Lake Erie to the Ohio river, was retraced in 1878-1881, and like the New York line plainly marked with durable stone monuments. This work was performed by commissioners appointed by the governors of the respective States under authority given by the Legislatures thereof. The lines between Pennsylvania and West Virginia—being that part of our western line south of the Ohio river, and that part of the southern parallel boundary lying between the southwest corner of Pennsylvania and the northwest corner of Maryland—were surveyed in 1883-1885 and were also plainly marked by substantial and durable monuments of stone.



The New York parallel is..... 228.81  
 " meridian line is..... 18.56-245.50 miles long.  
 " Ohio line is..... 92.30  
 " West Virginia meridian line is..... 63.70  
 " parallel line is..... 55.90  
 Making..... 456.70

of State lines that have been carefully surveyed and plainly and permanently marked within the last few years; leaving for some future time only the Maryland line and the circle line next to Delaware of our artificial boundaries to be re-examined and the lost monuments thereon restored.

Before leaving this subject it might be well to remind you that the running of a line of longitude is a simple problem compared with the tracing of a line of latitude. A line of latitude on the surface of the earth is not a right or straight line, but is a regular curve, changing direction at every point along its course. Mason and Dixon, in establishing the Maryland line, ran from their initial point a straight line for about 23 miles. At the end of that distance observations for latitude were made; the error of the western end of the line ascertained, and then offsets were made from the line run to the true parallel where the permanent marks were set and the vista cut. These operations were repeated at the end of about every 23 miles.

Wherever recent observations have been made on that part of the southern boundary run by Mason and Dixon, their monuments have been found substantially correct; but on the New York line serious errors were found in the location of some of the monuments.

It is a trite saying among farmers that "good fences make good neighbors." Pennsylvania has not been remiss in endeavoring to preserve the peace with sister commonwealths by the perpetuation of the ancient landmarks that define their respective jurisdictions.

*From, Intelligence*  
*Doylestown Pa.*  
*Date, Oct. 19/-92*

### LOCAL HISTORY.

**The Swartzlander Mill and Farm—Gabriel Swartzlander—Thomas Holcombe—Jacob Stout.**

The Swartzlander mill has long been a prominent object in the Pine Run Valley, and has a long history. It was one of the earlier mills of Bucks county, but there is no exact certainty when its wheels were first turned by the waters of the passing stream. The present structure is modern, built by Joseph Lapp in 1876, who put in new machinery. It is situated in a pleasant and fertile vale, and here the Dublin turnpike crosses the creek, while just a little ways northward is the Pine Run Valley creamery. The Swartzlanders who owned it so long have all gone their ways, and the mill is now owned by Aaron B. Detwiler.

The farm land formerly attached to the

mill has been much divided. To the eastward is old the homestead. Here is a large stone house owned by Jacob Bergey, to the north of which runs the old race course. The west end of the house bears the date of 1801 and the initials of Gabriel and Salome Swartzlander. The older east end is said to have been built as early as 1732, and is certainly as old as 1744. The present barn by the road side was erected by Swartzlander in 1802. The roof was of cedar shingles, which remained on it for 74 years and many were as sound as at first when removed in 1876 by Jacob Bergey. Of the 92 acres of the later Swartzlander estate, 46 are owned by Jacob K. Bergey; 30 acres by his brother, James Bergey and 14 acres by Abraham Overholt in its south corner. The farm of James Bergey lies on the north side of Pine Run.

This was part of the Fitzwater tract which comprised all the northeast edge of New Britain from the Academy lane to the Ferry road. It was Society land and bought by Thomas Fitzwater in 1729, and of which the same year he sold to his brother, George Fitzwater, 300 acres. This extended for 420 perches along the Plumstead line, reaching to the hilltop above Pine Run, but was only about 2000 feet wide. In 1744 Fitzwater sold to a real settler, Thomas Holcombe, of an English Quaker family, for the sum of £134, the amount of 120 acres. This was a piece 164 perches long and 117 wide, lying adjoining the Plumstead line with a width of 1930 feet. The deed was witnessed before Richard Mitchell. In 1746 Holcombe added 43½ acres bought of Clement Doyle for £110. This was along the present turnpike southeast of the mill.

Holcombe was a miller and during his ownership he built the mill. By the date of 1749 he was dead, but his property had been seized by the sheriff and sold to Amos Strickland, Samuel Carey and William Croasdale. In 1751 they sold to Joshua Morris the land, house and a grist mill for £393. In 1756 Morris sold 160 acres and the mill to Smith Cornell. At that time Daniel Evans was on the northwest, Clement Doyle on the southwest, and Thomas Good, Matthew Day and Thomas Kirkbride on the southeast. Cornell was miller and farmer here for eleven years. In 1767 he sold out to Jacob Stout, of Rockhill. The latter was the owner for about seven years. The conveyance to his son-in-law is not on record, but is said to have been in 1774, about the time that Gabriel Swartzlander married his daughter, Salome Freed, and at the date when Stout bought another farm in New Britain in the North Branch valley.

Swartzlander was a native of Switzerland, where he was born on the 31st of March, 1747. He came to America when seven years old in 1754. His father and uncle, Philip and Conard Swartzlander, came then. He later went to North Carolina, but Philip a few years later bought a lot of 18 acres in New Britain. This was purchased between 1760 and 1765, of James James, and was situated on both sides the main road, midway between Chaltont and New Britain. For over forty years of the present century it was the home of Enos Rotzell. Swartzlander was sexton of the New Britain Baptist Church and lies buried in its churchyard. In the lists of taxables of 1779 and 1785 he



pointed.

James

assessed for fifteen acres, whilst his son Gabriel was assessed 193 acres. In the list of non-associates for 1776 we find the names of Gabriel, Philip and Conard Swartzlander, a proof that the latter did not migrate to North Carolina till after the Revolution. After the death of Philip his little homestead was inherited by his daughter Margaret. At the death of the latter, her sister, the wife of Solomon Bochart, became the owner. Another daughter of Philip Swartzlander married Henry Hohlbaun, a Hessfan soldier, and a deserter from the British army. His son Henry, who lived on the farm of Rutledge Thornton to the age of nearly ninety used to say that when a child he had lived at the Swartzlander mill.

Gabriel Swartzlander owned a mill and farm in Pine Run for forty years. He was at Mennonite, and lies buried in the church yard of the meeting house nearby. His death occurred on the 17th of July, 1814, resulting from typhoid fever, then prevalent. His children were John, Magdalena, wife of John Kratz, Jacob, Katharine, Margaret, wife of — Stem, Joseph and David.

Salome, the mother of these children, is said to have been exceedingly benevolent in disposition, ever making gifts to her friends or to the poor. Joseph lived at the mill, married Miss Strawn and had children, Abel, Catharine, wife of Abraham Fretz; Mary, wife of Harry Sigatoos, of Trenton, and Elizabeth, who died single. Abel is a well-known citizen of Doylestown township, living near the Mennonite meeting house.

David Swartzlander lived on the homestead farm and married Barbara Walter. Had children, George, now of Eureka, Susanna, wife of John Harris, and Captain Jacob Swartzlander, of Omaha. Jacob Swartzlander married Miss Cope and had children, Joseph, Abraham, Salome, wife of Charles Randall; Emily, wife of Augustus Murray; Clara, wife of Robert Murray, of Bustleton, and Wilhelmina, wife of — Smith. Of these, Joseph was the father of Dr. Frank Swartzlander, of Doylestown; Frederick, a lawyer of Omaha; Henry, who has a sawmill at Yardley, and other children. The writer has not a list of descendants of the two daughters of Gabriel Swartzlander. Besides his New Britain property he owned land in Plumstead, opposite, now included in the farms of Philip and John Kratz.

In 1876 the executors of Joseph Swartzlander sold the mill and forty-one acres to Joseph Lapp. After making various improvements, including the rebuilding of the mill, Lapp sold the same and nineteen acres in 1881 to Oliver S. Jacoby for \$11,500. Jacoby was a young man, but died a few years later. In 1888 his administrators sold to Aaron B. Detweiler.

The homestead farm has changed hands several times since 1845. In that year David Swartzlander sold 97 acres to Jacob Markley; 1847, Markley to Jacob Stover, of Nockamixon; 1853, Stover to Franklin S. Cope; 1872, Cope to Reuben Algard; 1874, Algard to Jacob K. Bergey the old house and 49 acres. E. M.

From, *Intelligencer*  
*Doylestown Pa.*

Date, *Dec. 14* 1892

### LOCAL HISTORY.

#### The Riale Lands—The Bolinger and Gross Farms

John Riale was an original settler of New Britain. His posterity were numerous and prominent in that township, or rather in that portion that became Doylestown. A historical sketch concerning this John Riale and his descendants was published by the writer several years ago. It is sufficient here to recapitulate that John Riale bought his land, comprising 296 acres, of Joseph Kirkbride in 1730 and died in 1748. This tract was a mile in width, extending from the Mennonite meeting grounds across Pine Run Valley to the Ferry road. The homestead was at the present premises of I. B. Barnes. These lands also are now included in the properties of Abel Swartzlander, John Bolinger, Isaac Rickert, William Thompson, Samuel Gross, part of that of Robert James, besides several small lots.

#### THE BOLINGER PLACE.

This was originally part of the Riale lands. Here are modern farm buildings near the junction of two roads, and a short distance southeast of Pine Run. This was a part which had come into possession of Ann Schweitzer about the beginning of this century, after the death of Richard Riale in 1804. In 1809 Valentine Schweitzer bought of his brother Simon. The latter was the owner till his death in 1845. Four years later, in 1849, Josiah Meredith bought from Schweitzer's estate sixty-two acres. The latter lived here eight years. He is remembered as an excellent citizen. He passed the closing days of his life at New Britain village, where he died in 1872, and where his widow yet resides. John Bolinger, of Plumstead, bought of Meredith in 1857.

#### THE GROSS FARM.

This farm, which lies on the southwest side of the highway, which separates it from the Bolinger place, comprises 77 acres derived from two pieces, but all originally belonging to the Riales. Thirteen acres were obtained from Josiah Meredith in 1857, then owner of the latter Bolinger place. This was part of the plantation of Richard Riale, one of the sons of John Riale, the pioneer. The former was born in 1733, and died in 1804. His three sons were John, Joshua and Nathan. Between them they inherited 150 acres, Joshua and Nathan held partnership in this portion. Nathan Riale moved to Chester county before 1813, at whom Mathias Soudham pur-



chased 35 acres. In 1813 the executors of Soudham sold to Jonathan Wood, and in 1816, Wood transferred to Josiah Y. Shaw. Meanwhile Joseph Evans had married Rachel, a daughter of Joshua Riale and thereby came into possession of 22 acres belonging to his father-in-law, after the death of the latter in 1823. To this he added the 35 acres owned by Shaw in 1837, making 57 acres in all. Joseph Evans was one of three brothers, David and John, who had inherited considerable fortunes from their brother Robert, a merchant tailor, who died childless, of yellow fever, in the city of New Orleans, in 1835. He erected the dwelling now the residence of Abel Swartzlander, while David built the present Keeley mansion at New Britain in 1841. Joseph Evans, with his son, William, removed to Minnesota, where both died of a prevalent fever. His son, Dr. Joshua R. Evans, was for many years a physician at Brantchtown, Montgomery county.

In 1851 Evans sold the farm to Joseph Shepherd, of the Buckingham family of that name. Shepherd was the owner for fourteen years, when he sold in 1865 to Michael Hoffman. He was for many years thereafter a resident of Doylestown and later of Lansdale. One of his sons, Robert A. Shepherd, is now publisher of the *Lansdale Republican*.

During the earlier ownership of Hoffman, about 1867, the barn was destroyed by fire, supposed to be of incendiary origin. A boy in the employ of Hoffman was arrested. An interesting court trial followed, but the accused was acquitted. Hoffman died intestate in 1887, and his administrators sold to Samuel Hoffman. The next year the latter also died; the farm was sold, and Samuel C. Gross, the present owner, was the purchaser. The farm lands slope gently northeast towards Pine Run, from the immediate proximity of which they are separated by a highway.

E. M.

From, *Intelligencer*

*Doylestown Pa.*

Date, *Jan. 9<sup>th</sup> 1893*

### LOCAL HISTORY.

#### The Evans Plantation and Family.

Isaac Evans, the Immigrant—David Evans, the Universalist Preacher.

The Evans homestead was about a mile and a half west of Doylestown, within the valley of Pine Run. By the will of James Evans of 1844, a liferight in the property was granted to J. Judson Evans, of the fourth generation, which is now held by a sister of his deceased wife. Here, by the public road, has stood a substantial stone house for nearly a century, the older portion of which was built in 1797 by James Evans. The spring-house is a short distance northward. The

farm land of ninety-six acres is intersected by the highway and extends southeastward from Pine Run. Along the summit level separating the valley of Cook's and Pine Run is a forest, mostly belonging to this property. It has been under rental for over forty years, and considering that fact, the farm is in quite good condition. The present occupant, James Moore, has been the tenant for the past sixteen years. J. Judson Evans has long been a resident of Philadelphia.

#### ISAAC EVANS.

Isaac Evans, the American ancestor of the family, was a Welshman, who emigrated, tradition says, along with two brothers. The exact time of their arrival is not known, but he was an original settler of New Britain. The date of his purchase of land was in 1731, when he bought 139 acres of Joseph Kirkbride, bounded as follows: "Beginning at the south corner of John Riale; then by Jeremiah Langhorn southwest 185 perches; then by Evan Stephens northwest 63 perches; then by Sarah Harry 63 perches and by same northwest 39 perches and by same northeast 3 perches and northwest 3 perches and southwest 3 perches; then again by Sarah Harry northwest 45 perches; then by Thomas Morris northeast 122 perches; then southeast by John Riale 150 perches to beginning." For this £69½ were paid and the deed was witnessed by David Edwards, Evan Stephens and Thomas Morris, before Simon Butler. It will then be seen that his neighbors were Sarah Harry on the southwest, Thomas Morris on the northwest, John Riale on the northeast and Evan Stephens on southeast and south.

Concerning Isaac Evans we know little except that he was an industrious and prosperous pioneer of a new country, and a religious man, who was one of the constituent members of New Britain Baptist church in 1754. At a date, now unknown, but supposed to have been along about 1755, he purchased eighty-six acres of Isaac Milnor, now the Nash and one of the Gehman farms. It is supposed that this piece had originally been the north corner of the 400 acre tract of Evan Stephens. He lived at the homestead he had created for thirty years, his death occurring the latter part of September, 1761. He was doubtless buried at New Britain, but no stone marks the spot or tells his age, which probably did not exceed sixty years.

#### WILL OF ISAAC EVANS.

The will of Isaac Evans was registered October 16, 1761. Three sons are mentioned in this will—James, Daniel and David. To James was granted "the farm where he now lives, and which I bought of Isaac Milnor." To son Daniel "the farm where he now lives, which I bought of the administrators of David Thomas." To son David "the real estate where I now live," and the latter was also made executor. The will was witnessed by William Davis and John Williams—the latter a neighbor on the southwest side. It will be seen that Isaac Evans was able to equip each of his three sons with a farm for their inheritance.

#### JAMES EVANS.

James was the eldest son of Isaac, and



was born in America in 1731. He married, and the first name of his wife was Margaret, who survived him. He died whilst yet in middle age, and left no children. His residence was at the present Nash farm in the Cook's Run Valley, a mile west of Doylestown. His death occurred on the 20th of September, 1771, at the age of forty-one, and he was buried at New Britain, where his tombstone can be seen to the present day. His will was witnessed by Thomas Jones, Thomas Jones, Jr., and Richard Riale. His widow received a life right in the farm, which after her decease was to go to "James, eldest son of my brother David, and to Isaac, eldest son of my brother Daniel." James Evans, the first-named, afterwards became the sole owner, and what became of his cousin Isaac the writer is unacquainted. There was one public bequest, "to John Mathew and David Stephens, deacons of New Britain church, the sum of £3 for the support of the minister." His widow Margaret and his brother David were made executors.

Concerning Daniel Evans, the second brother, we have already given an account in a previous sketch of the Nice, Carr and other properties near Fountainville.

#### DAVID EVANS.

David, the third and youngest son of Isaac Evans, was born in 1738, and inherited the homestead. He married Susanna Barton about 1766. He was sagacious, upright, thrifty, industrious, temperate in an age of intemperance, and became a wealthy man for those times. He kept adding to his landed property all his life. In 1766 he purchased the present Haldeman farm and other land, comprising 165 acres, of Evan Stephens, Jr., and John Thomas. In 1791 he bought the former Harry place, now the Murray and Garges farms. In 1805 he came into possession, from the Dungsans of the old plantation of Edward Doyle, the late Riale property. It could be truly said that David Evans might start from the banks of Pipe Run and walk all the way on his own land to far within the present borough of Doylestown, which was a distance of three miles. He was admitted as a member of the New Britain church, October 29, 1772, and soon became one of its ruling elders. His brother Daniel had joined in 1770. His name appears among those who took the oath of allegiance, and in the assessment of 1779 he is rated as the owner of 340 acres.

Concerning some features of his life and the mental peculiarities of David Evans, the writer will here copy from a previous sketch, written a number of years ago. Possessing the mental temperament and of an acute and vigorous mind, he had some how acquired considerable education. His acquirements of legal lore was superior to that of his rustic neighbors, and which made him useful to them. The legal documents that he handled bear witness to the excellence of his penmanship. The county seat (then at Newtown) was distant, and though never acting as justice of the peace, he was the trusted counsellor, the man to whom people would go for advice, who was asked to settle estates, and become the guardian of minor children. Where his strong prejudices were not concerned, his judgment was

excellent, and his absolute personal integrity invited trust and reliance. In personal appearance, he is remembered as a man of middle height, alert, quick and active in movement, and of dark hair, eyes, and complexion. A strong and vehement partisan, opinionative, obstinate, choleric in temper, with strong likes and lasting resentments, somewhat arrogant in bearing, he was a man of friends and enemies, and wielding con-

siderable influence in the community. A member of the Baptist church of New Britain, he found himself excluded from the pale of its organization in his last years, not on account of any vice or delinquency of moral conduct, but by reason of the radical difference of doctrine which he held and sought to promulgate. He was rapid and vigorous in speech, quick and copious in language and repartee, and delighted to find an opponent with whom he could hold an argument.

Although Evans was so staunch and obstinate in his opinions, yet his mind was open to conviction and change when coming in contact with men of still stronger personality. In Philadelphia he first met with a celebrated Methodist preacher of the time who converted him from Calvinism to the Arminian faith, or free grace for all. Afterwards hearing Universalist preachers, he took another step and became a believer in universal salvation. A man of his self-assurance, courage, earnestness and force of character could not be satisfied with keeping his changed opinions to himself. Whether they were right or wrong, this history has nothing to do. We are only recording the fact that he held them and what he tried to do with them. He, too, earnestly believed in them to be satisfied with anything less than proselyting the whole neighborhood and church. This was very soon after the Revolution and tradition relates that once upon a time the doughty Welshman ventured to tackle the preacher himself in his own pulpit at New Britain. The preacher on this occasion was not the regular pastor, but Rev. William Williams, a descendant of Roger Williams, and a graduate of Brown University, Providence, but a native of Hiltown. Evans arose in his pew and bluntly told the astonished preacher that "he told a falsehood and that he could prove it by the word of God," proceeding thereupon to state his doctrine. Williams, however, wisely waived any argument by saying: "It is not worth while for us, Mr. Evans, to hold any controversy here; if my seine misses me, yours is sure to catch me."

Henceforth he sought to bring the whole church over to his own belief. A conflict, of course, ensued, and the disputes lasted for a considerable period. However, well able to influence his own family and personal friends, Evans found it too large a contract to shake a whole church from its ancient theological moorings. He had entered into the contest asking no quarter, and in the end the weaker party had to withdraw and were excluded. The Universalist doctrine, as preached on that day, was quite different from now. Then, its postulate of universal salvation was not qualified by the assertion that in the future world there would be punishment and plenty of it for sins committed here, but that this retribution is to be of a reformatory, and not vindictive character. Men, in large numbers, were not likely to embrace a



doctrine that said that the man who had led a Christian life on earth was to fare no better in the next life than the reprobate and the scoundrel. Meanwhile, within a century, the two extremes of the Calvinistic sects and the Universalists, then so unreconcilable, have been imperceptibly coming closer together, until now large divisions of the old Orthodox sects, both in England and America, hold views in regard to eschatology not so very widely differing from the so-called Liberal sects.

Prohibited from preaching at New Britain Evans organized a congregation about 1785, composed of persons he had induced to withdraw from the church with him. As is stated in "Davis' History of Bucks County," these members on the 30th of January, 1790, were David Evans, Daniel Evans, Joseph Barton, Thomas Morris, Isaac Thomas, Daniel Thomas, John Riale, Gilbert Belcher, Isaac Morris and James Evans, who signed a document approving the proposal for a Universalist convention the following May. Of the above signers, besides himself, were his brother, his son, his son-in-law and his father-in-law. In 1793 they reported that they had been able to hold weekly meetings the most of the year. The report for 1802 says: "We have a little meeting house built in a convenient place by the side of a public road and finished in November last, 1801. Since then we have had meetings for religious worship therein every first day of the week. But a few only incline to meet statedly." The church sent delegates to the conventions in Philadelphia from 1790 to 1809, when the last was held.

Thomas Morris was clerk during this period, and John Riale was chorister. The house they met in was built in on the Evans farm, and was on the road leading to New Britain, several hundred yards southwest of the present Evans farmhouse. It was within the memory of many now living used as a school house, but was demolished between 1845 and 1850. Mr. Evans preached to the congregation till his death in 1824, but after the master spirit was gone the flock he had gathered soon disappeared. He was present at every convention of the Universalists from 1790 to 1824. Two of his pamphlets on religious subjects were printed in Doylestown; one a sermon on "Absolute predestination," preached at the opening of the Universalist Convention at Philadelphia, May 17, 1806; the other a lecture delivered in the Universalist church, of the same city, in June, 1809, entitled, "Remarks on the Baptist Association's Letter." On the title page of the latter he is styled "Minister of the Universalist church at New Britain."

The writer has seen the pamphlet containing these sermons and also a hymn which he had composed. They indicate an acute and logical mind, rather narrow in range of ideas, lacking in wealth of illustration and that fullness of the imaginative faculty which lends grace and beauty to composition. The style is dry and logical, destitute of inductive reasoning, betraying much more of the phrenological faculty of causality than of comparison. His hymn was sadly destitute of a devotional or lyrical spirit, but is a curiosity in being just as full of argument as his prose sermons. Evans refused to be buried at the church which had excluded him, and the mortal remains of the old preacher of universal

salvation rest among a people of a different race and religion, that of the Mennonites, a mile above Doylestown. His death took place May 14, 1824, at the age of eighty-six. His widow died February 19, 1828, at the age of eighty-five, and was buried beside him.

#### THE WILL OF DAVID EVANS.

In this document mention is made of his widow Susannah, and of his only son James. The latter received the homestead of 139 acres. His daughter Rachel had married John Riale, whose children are mentioned, viz.: Evan, David, Nathan and Susannah, wife of David Johnson. Another daughter Anna, had married Isaac Hill, the latter being long before deceased. Her children were Thomas, David, James and Susannah, wife of Jacob Kern, Elizabeth and Mary Ann. A second plantation of 107 acres was also willed to his son James. A third plantation of 105 acres had long before come into possession of his son-in-law, John Riale. A fourth plantation of 97½ acres was willed to his grandson, Richard Riale. David Evans also held an immense body of land in Ohio county, West Virginia, amounting to 2600 acres. This was willed to Evan Riale and the children of Isaac Hill. The city of Wheeling is in Ohio county.

Concerning Isaac Hill, the son-in-law of David Evans, it is told that he went with his family of small children to the Redstone Valley, Fayette county, about 1810.

15. He there died, and the widow and small children had a time of poverty and hardship in returning by wagon to Bucks county. One of these children was James E. Hill, long the owner of a farm at New Britain village, and which is now possessed by his son George C. Hill, of Chalfont. The late David E. Riale, Esq., for many years a justice and prominent in the community at New Britain, was another grandson of David Evans.

#### JAMES EVANS.

James Evans, of the third generation, was born in 1768. He was twice married, first to a Miss Kerns; and second, to Rebecca Good. His children by the first marriage were Kern, George, Hiram, Yates, Deborah and Susannah. The latter became Mrs. O'Neil, and went to New York city. Her sister became Mrs. Dunn, and removed to one of the Western States. The sons all removed West and are now deceased, with the exception of Yates Evans, who lived and died in Norristown. By the second wife were Louessa, Sophia, Sallie, Rebecca and J. Judson.

James Evans remained wealthy in landed property and lived at the homestead during a long life of eighty years. His death took place, March 25, 1848, and like his father, he was buried at the Mennonite graveyard. In his will of 1844, mention is made of four farms. The homestead was left as a life possession of J. Judson Evans. The farm of 107 acres was devised to his sons Kern, George and Hiram. A farm of sixty acres was willed to his son, Yates—the later Nash property. A small farm of 33 acres, one of those owned by A. L. Gehman, was left to his four daughters by his second marriage, and with whom their father then lived. Of these, Louessa, married Silas A. Kroner, Sallie became the wife of William Brunner and Sophia married Dr. John Rhoads, dentist of Doylestown.



From, *Democrat*  
*Doylestown Pa.*  
 Date, *Jan. 23<sup>d</sup> 1893*

## THE BLACKFANS

### IN ENGLAND AND AMERICA.

Read Before the Bucks County Historical Society, at Doylestown, January 17, 1893, by Miss Elizabeth C. Blackfan, of Solebury.

Among the many friends and counselors of the great founder of our Commonwealth, bound to him also by the ties of kinship, mentioned frequently in the records of the Province and the letters of William Penn, was one Edward Blackfan. This Edward Blackfan, whose descendants still reside in Bucks county, was the son of John Blackfan, of Stenning, Sussex county, England. The Blackfans were among the early converts to Quakerism, and both the Penn and Blackfan families attended the meetings at Ifield. They were connected through the Crispins, as Edward Blackfan's wife, Rebecca, was William Penn's first cousin, her father and Admiral Penn having married sisters.

It is not strange that the ties of consanguinity and of a like faith should grow into that warmth of friendship and confidence which was displayed in the letters of the Proprietary during the last five years of Edward's life. The Blackfans seemed to have suffered like so many others of that period for their religious faith, John Blackfan having been several times fined for refusing to attend worship or pay tithes, imprisoned and finally excommunicated. The marriage certificate of Edward Blackfan and Rebecca Crispin is dated 8-mo., 24th, 1688. It took place at Ifield Friends' meeting, and was witnessed by William Penn, his wife, son and daughter. This certificate is still in existence in good preservation and is now in the possession of William C. Blackfan.

The last account of Edward Blackfan was in a letter to Richard Morris, dated at London, 1639, containing an order proclaiming William and Mary, King and Queen of England, France and Ireland. Here all record ends, but tradition tells us that he had purchased or obtained grants from Penn of certain valuable lands, and was making ready to bring over his wife and infant son when he was taken sick and died, and his papers were lost or destroyed. This must have been about 1690. His widow and son came to this country in 1700. They were kindly received by their kinsman and went to Pennsbury to live, Rebecca taking charge of the Proprietary's house.

The son, William, was made, when of age, by a deed of gift from Thomas and

William Penn, the owner of 500 acres of land in Solebury township. This deed is said to be still in existence and is, I think, in the possession of the family of Ogden Blackfan, of Trenton. He married in 1721, Elinor Wood, of Philadelphia, and settled in Solebury. Many prominent names appear in the certificate of their marriage—that of the mayor, Surveyor General, Provincial Commissioner and Attorney General. Soon after her son's marriage, Rebecca married Nehemiah Allen, of Philadelphia, a prominent citizen and member of the City Council. William and Elinor Blackfan had six children, Crispin, named for his grandmother's family; Elizabeth, Rebekah, Sarah, William and Hannah.

At William's death the tract was divided, Crispin taking the western half and William the eastern. Crispin married Martha Davis and had nine children, one son, Edward, and eight daughters. Edward married Mary Smith and had four children, of whom three were sons, Crispin, Samuel and Joseph. Crispin married and settled in Trenton, where his son's family still reside. Samuel married Elizabeth, daughter of Moses Eastburn. After his death the homestead was sold and passed out of the family name. It is now owned by Charles Atkinson. Joseph studied medicine and settled at Radnor, Delaware county. His descendants live at Norristown.

William, fourth child of William and Elinor, married Esther Dawson, daughter of Thomas Dawson, granddaughter of John Dawson. The Dawson property lay two miles west of New Hope and consisted of 500 acres of land. It was deeded to John Dawson in 1719, by Ralph Jackson and Francis Harding. This property was left by Thomas Dawson to his grandsons, John and Thomas Blackfan. The original deed is the only one ever made and is still in the possession of the family. William and Esther had six children. Of the sons, John married Martha Quinby, of New Jersey. Thomas died unmarried. Jesse married Jane Deffendorf, of New York. William died in 1796 and his wife in 1806. John, who married Martha Quinby, settled upon the estate his grandfather left him, near New Hope. He died in 1806, leaving one son, John, born in 1799. His widow, Martha, afterwards married Dr. Isaac Chapman.

John Blackfan married Elizabeth R. Chapman, of Wrightstown, in 1821, and settled in Solebury at his father's house. This house was burned in 1835, nearly everything in it being destroyed. He built the present house, not far from the old site. They had four children who grew to maturity, Hetty Ann, William C., George C. and Martha C. Hetty Ann married George Watson and died in 1867. William married Elizabeth Ely, of Philadelphia, and lives upon the Solebury farm. George married Lavinia Worstall, of Newtown, and lives there. Martha married George Watson and lives in Philadelphia. Elizabeth, John Blackfan's wife, died in 1856 and in 1864 he married Francenia Ely, of Buckingham, and moved to Yardley, where he died in 1873.

Many old deeds, certificates and wills remain in our possession, together with John Dawson's Bible, printed 1613, and Elinor Wood Blackfan's, printed in 1753. An old chest of drawers, brought from England, in 1700; a clock made in 1792, by Seneca Lukens, maker of the State



House clock; an old chair or two, some silver, etc., are all that remain of their personal property, some destroyed by fire and many scattered among the families of the numerous daughters. Such is the record of the descendants of the staunch old Quaker whom William Penn called cousin and honored with his friendship and confidence. There have been no statesmen or politicians among them. They have led upright and blameless lives, and their descendants are proud of an inheritance, which, if it brings no great wealth or fame, brings what is held to be better than great riches, a good name.

From,

Press

Philad. Pa.

Date, Jan. 29<sup>th</sup> 1892

## Four Washington Headquarters

Houses Where the Father of His Country Lived in Bucks County, at Newtown, Pa., and White Marsh, Pa., Which Have Almost Escaped the Historian's Attention.

So many articles have been published in newspapers and magazines regarding the headquarters of General George Washington during the War of the Revolution that it would seem to the casual reader that after all these years nothing new remains in that direction to be told. Remarkable as it may appear, novelists and historians alike have passed by, almost without mention, four of the General's headquarters of extreme prominence and historical importance. These dwellings are still in existence and, moreover, are all within the boundaries of the State of Pennsylvania.

Only within the last few months has the history of the Barclay house been dug out of the obscure and musty records of the past by that indefatigable student of Washingtoniana, William S. Baker. In telling the story in detail, for the first time, of these headquarters the writer has deemed it proper to arrange the accounts in chronological order, although with one exception the houses were not occupied in direct succession. The first headquarters, therefore, to pass under review will be Washington's residence at Morrisville.

On Sunday, December 8, 1776, Washington, being hotly pursued by the British, retreated from Princeton, N. J., and crossed the Delaware River to Pennsylvania, taking his headquarters at the house of Thomas Barclay about half a mile from the river, at Morrisville. On that day, as soon as Washington was comfortably settled in this old dwelling, he wrote a letter to the President of Congress

which he dated: "At Mr. Berkeley's, Summerseat, Pennsylvania."

In some manner the Commander-in-Chief managed to get the name of his host strangely mixed, and as there was no man by the name of Berkeley residing in the vicinity of Morrisville at that time, there has always been more or less mystery as to the exact location of these headquarters. The proper name of the owner of this old Bucks County mansion, which has now been authentically located, was Thomas Barclay, a prominent citizen of Philadelphia, although an Irishman by birth.

### MR. BARCLAY AND HIS HOME.

He was one of the original members of the Society of the Friendly Sons of Saint Patrick, organized in Philadelphia in 1771, and the parent of the present Hibernian Society. He was president of the organization from June 17, 1779, till June 17, 1781. In 1780 Mr. Barclay subscribed the sum of £5000 to the Bank of the United States, an institution established for furnishing supplies of provisions to the army of the United States. From this act it is to be inferred that he was loyal to the patriot cause.

Mr. Barclay purchased the property on which his residence was erected, in April 1773. The plot consisted of 221 acres. In November, 1791, the premises, then known as "Summerseat," passed into the hands of Robert Morris, the noted financier of the Revolution. At the present time the house is owned and occupied by John H. Osburn and is practically the same in appearance both on the exterior and interior as it was in the days when Washington occupied it.

It is a magnificent, rambling, stone mansion of the style of architecture com-





THE BARCLAY HOUSE, WASHINGTON'S HEADQUARTERS AT MORRISVILLE.

mon in the middle and latter half of the last century, two stories in height with a covered porch supported by six pillars extending the full length of the house. To the left are extensive outbuildings. The rooms are large and airy and among other attractive features it contains a spacious ball room in which it is said a reception was held in honor of Lafayette when he visited this country in 1824. Quaint nooks and corners abound throughout the dwelling, and old fashioned carved mantel-pieces are to be found in all the rooms, while antique high back chairs and many pieces of eighteenth century furniture are to be seen on all sides.

Its no wonder, in fact only natural, that Washington, who had an honestly inherited love for good living, should have selected Mr. Barclay's house for his headquarters,

as it was in Revolutionary times the most extensive and sumptuous residence that side of the Quaker City. Washington occupied this house as his headquarters until December 14. During the period of his occupancy he penned some very interesting and important letters. On December 9, he wrote:—

"General Mifflin at this moment came up and tells me that all the military stores yet remain in Philadelphia. This makes the immediate fortifying of the city so necessary that I have desired General Mifflin to return and take charge of the stores, and have ordered Major General Putnam immediately down to superintend the work and give the necessary directions."

On the 13th he wrote to the President of



SIDE VIEW OF BARCLAY HOUSE.



Congress:—

"I shall move further up the river to be near the main body of my small army with which every possible opposition shall be given to any further approach of the enemy towards Philadelphia."

#### AT KEITH'S, IN BUCKS COUNTY.

To carry out this idea the General the next day departed, no doubt with much regret, from Mr. Barclay's fine home, and moved to the farm house of William Keith, also in Bucks County, and still standing. This dwelling was built as early as 1763. It is a two story, with pent roof and attic, pointed stone house, twenty-four by twenty-eight feet. The front door is in two folds set in a solid oaken frame and garnished with a wooden lock, the same which locked out intruders when Washington occupied the house. The interior finish in yellow pine remains unchanged and one room has never been disfigured by the painter's brush.

Washington, according to General W. H. Davis, probably occupied the main front room down stairs for an office and the one over it for his bedchamber. How often he ascended and descended the stairway between the two rooms with heavy heart, especially while making ready for Trenton, is a matter that can only be conjectured.

The same old roof that sheltered the house from the storm during Washington's day still covers it. It has, however, been protected with a tin surface. At one time the front yard was inclosed by a stone wall, but that has long since been taken away. The property has always remained in the hands of the Keith family; it was purchased originally from the London Company by William Keith. Washington's reasons for locating at this place, no doubt, were that it was near the upper fords of the Delaware, at which it was supposed the enemy would attempt to cross, and was also within a few hours' ride of Newtown, the depot for supplies.

It was while at Keith's that Washington



THE NESHAMINY HEADQUARTERS (FRONT VIEW.).

received information that General Lee had been taken prisoner on the morning of the 13th at a place called Vealtown, now Bernardsville, N. J. General Lee's capture was largely due to his disregard of Washington's orders and appeals for him to join the main army. He dragged along through New Jersey so slowly that he only reached Morristown on the 11th of December, having crossed the Hudson on the 4th. On the 12th he marched to Bernardsville, taking up his headquarters three miles from the town, at the tavern of Mrs. White, at Basking Ridge, and was taken prisoner the following morning. He was not exchanged until April 21, 1778. He

rejoined the army at Valley Forge May 20th.

#### WASHINGTON'S PERPLEXITY.

It was while at Keith's that General Washington's army was considerably augmented by about 2000 Philadelphia militia and by several hundred of the county militia. He however, wrote to his brother from the old farm house, under date of December 18: "I think our affair is in a very bad condition. You can form no idea of the perplexity of my situation. No man, I believe, ever had a greater choice of difficulties, and less means to extricate himself from them. However, with a full



...dusion of the justice of our cause, I cannot entertain an idea that it will finally sink, although it may remain for some time under a cloud."

From Keith's, Washington went in camp above the falls at Trenton, where he remained until the night of that eventful December 25, when the army crossed the Delaware River at midnight at McKonkey's Ferry, now Taylorsville, and marched on to Trenton. After the surprise of the Hessians at Trenton, the General re-crossed the river at the same point and took up his headquarters at Newtown.

It was not until August 10, 1777, that Washington occupied the third headquarters in Bucks County to come under our review. The house, which is still standing, is on the Old York Road, in Warwick Township. It is located opposite the road about 120 yards from the north-east end of the present bridge over the Little Neshaminy Creek, at the foot of a long

and rather steep hill known as Carr's Hill, about half a mile above the village of Hartsville, formerly known as the Cross Roads.

For many years the dwelling was owned by William Bothwell, in whose family the title I believe yet remains. It is built of rough stone, two stories in height and fronts south, standing on an elevation of eight or nine feet from the present road. In writing about this camp to the President of Congress under date of "Neshaminy Camp, 9 o'clock P.M., August 10," Washington says: "I at this minute received your favor of this afternoon transmitting the intelligence that a fleet was off Sina-puxent on the 7th inst. I was about three miles eastward of the Billett tavern on the road to Coryell's Ferry when the express arrived. The troops are in camp on the road where they will remain until I have further accounts of the fleet."



THE WHITEMARSH HEAD QUARTERS

For ten days the General remained in ignorance as to the intentions of the enemy. Thus on August 20, he writes from this old Neshaminy farm house:—

"Since the enemy's fleet were seen at Sioapuxent on the 8th inst., I have no accounts from them which can be depended on. I am now of an opinion that Charles Town is the present object of General Howe's attention, though for what sufficient reason, unless he expects to drag this army after him by appearing at different places and thereby leave the country open for General Clinton to march out and endeavor to form a junction with General Burgoyne. I am at a loss to determine."

LAFAYETTE'S FIRST COUNCIL.

The next day the General held a council

of war in the sitting-room of his headquarters, at which it was decided that as the enemy's fleet had most probably sailed for Charles Town, it was not expedient for the army to march southward and that it should move immediately toward the North River. It is an interesting fact that the young Marquis de Lafayette took part for the first time in this council of war as Major General, having been commissioned on July 31.

On the 22d Washington, having received information of the fact, informed the army of the signal victory of the Continental army at the battle of Bennington. August 23 the camp on the Neshaminy was broken, the General left his headquarters that evening, and the army moved



down the old York Road toward Philadelphia, and encamped near Nicetown, within five miles of the city. Washington made his headquarters at Stenton, the homestead of the Logan family. The next day the army marched into Philadelphia.

A few months after leaving the old farmhouse on the Neshaminy, and after the defeat at Brandywine and Germantown, and the occupation of the Quaker City by the British, the Commander-in-Chief, having left the house of James Morris, at Whitpain, near the present village of Ambler, Pa., and about fifteen miles from the city, took up his headquarters on the 2d of November, 1777, at White Marsh. The dwelling he occupied is a large stone building still standing, about half a mile east from Camp Hill Station, on the North Pennsylvania Railroad, and twelve miles north of Philadelphia. The house faces south and is two stories and a half in height, 80 feet front and 27 feet in depth. In 1854 it was modernized, and a large wing, originally the dining-room, removed from the west end. Enough of the old

buildings remains, however, to determine its appearance during the days of the Revolution, when it was a sort of baronial hall, both in size and character, occupied by George Emlen, a wealthy Philadelphian who dispensed liberal hospitality to all who came beneath his roof.

#### WASHINGTON IN UNDRESS.

The house, with ninety-two acres, has since 1857 been owned and occupied by Charles T. Aiman, a prosperous farmer. Camp Hill, on which part of the left wing of the army was posted, is directly to the rear of the house, and it is said that some of the caves or dugouts which the soldiers were compelled to make to shelter them are still to be seen. Some of the most interesting and important events of the whole war transpired while Washington occupied his White Marsh headquarters. Under date of November 7, in the orderly book, is to be read the following curious entry:—

"Since the General left Germantown, in the middle of September last, he has been without his baggage, and on that account is unable to receive company in the manner he could wish. He, nevertheless, desires the generals, field officers, and brigade major of the day to dine with him in the futuro at 3 o'clock in the afternoon."

Under date of Sunday, November 9, Washington penned the earliest public record bearing on the subject of the conspiracy to displace him from the command of the army, known as the Conway Cabal. It is a letter addressed to General Conway asking him, among other things, the meaning of the following remark which first appeared in a letter from Conway to General Gates:—

"Heaven has been determined to save your country, or a weak general and bad councillors would have ruined it."

While at White Marsh, Washington heard of the evacuation of Fort Mifflin and informed the President of Congress of the fact. To show the extremity to which the army were reduced for shoes at this location the following extract, under date of November 22, may be made from the orderly book:—

"The Commander-in-Chief offers a reward of \$10 to any person who shall by 9 o'clock on Monday morning produce the best substitutes for shoes made of raw hides."

On November 24 a council of war was held at the General's headquarters to consider the expediency of an attack on the enemy's lines at Philadelphia. The council adjourned without coming to a decision and the Commander-in-Chief dispatched a special messenger to General Green, then at Mount Holly, N.J., requiring of the other officers their written opinion. In comparing them, eleven were found against making the attack, and only Stirling, Wayne, Scott and Woodford in favor of it.

On November 30 the General decided to establish a fortified winter encampment at Valley Forge, on the west side of the Schuylkill River, and on December 11 at 4 o'clock the whole army marched first to Mattson's Ford, where they expected to cross the river, but, encountering a body of the enemy consisting of about 4000 men under Lord Cornwallis, they were ordered to march to Swede's Ford, about three miles further up the river, where they crossed on the night of the 12th, and on the 19th of December the camp was commenced at Valley Forge.

From, *the Intelligence*

*Doylstown Pa.*

Date, *Feb. 6, 1893*

#### LOCAL HISTORY.

The Harry Plantation—The Murray and Garges Farms—The Old Davidson and McConnell Farms  
—John Williams.

About one and a half miles west of Doylstown, and on the southeast slope of Pine Run Valley are the Murray and Garges farms, formerly the Harry plantation of colonial times. The former has long been occupied by Peter G. Murray and sisters. The Garges place, to the northward, was doubtless the original homestead, and near which is a lasting spring. Here has been a habitation for more than 160 years.

It was rather unusual for a woman to be an original settler and the first purchaser of a piece of unimproved wilderness, but here such was the case. The deed from Joseph Kirkbride was made in 1732 to Sarah Harry, a widow, who bought ninety-six acres. She had, however, a son who could undertake the farming. The boundaries were: "Beginning at corner of Thomas Morris; thence by same southwest 100 perches; thence by David Reese, southeast, 173 perches; thence northeast by Evan Stephen, 97 perches; thence by Isaac Evans, northwest, 39 perches; by same northeast three perches and northwest three perches, and southwest three perches, thence by Evans' and Thomas Morris' northwest, 136 perches to beginning."

These names indicate that the first settlers of this portion of New Britain were all Welshmen. They show also that



He had the land for over half a century on the southwest side, now the McConnell and Gehman places. Four years later, in 1736, Sarah Harry gave the deed for the farm to her son Henry. The latter in 1754 bought eleven acres of Thomas Morris, a strip near Pine Run, about 400 feet wide by 757 feet long. This increased the plantation to 107 acres.

Concerning the Harry family, who were the first settlers here, we have no information. They lived here for thirty-two years. The name is the same which later became spelled Harris, though in Montgomery county some families retain the original spelling of Harry. It is possible that Henry Harry is the same person who purchased the Kelso farm of two hundred acres in 1773, situated along Spruce Hill and the Whitehallville turnpike, in the southern part of the township.

Of this, however, the writer has no confirmation. At any rate in 1764 Harry sold his plantation to Thomas Jones, who the same year transferred the same to David Evans. It remained in possession of the Evans family for three generations—from 1764 to 1850, during much of which time it was rented. In 1850 Abraham Garges bought of heirs of James Evans the amount of 57 acres, including the buildings, and which is now held by his son, Lewis Garges.

The southern half was conveyed to Charles Wigton, who, in 1853, sold to George Murray, the Scotch school teacher, and where the latter died at a very advanced age. The buildings there were erected about forty years ago.

#### THE M'CONNELL AND GEHMAN FARMS-- THE OLD HOME OF NANCY DAVIDSON.

The buildings on the McConnell farm are upon the highway leading to New Britain, and about a mile northeast of the latter place. The stone house was built by Lawrence Emery soon after 1815. Nearby was a blacksmith shop, where William McConnell formerly plied his trade. The premises are now owned by his son, Simon McConnell. The farm land lies on a slope gently declining northwest towards Pine Run.

#### THE DAVIDSON FARM.

This property adjoins the McConnell farm on the southwest, and is bounded by roads on two sides. Here is a very old stone house, built long before the Revolution by John Williams. The water from the well is about the coldest and best of any in the township. This place has had many owners and for a long time presented a poverty-stricken appearance by reason of neglect. It is now one of several farms owned by A. L. Gehman, who has greatly improved it.

As both these properties were formerly united, their earlier history may be followed under one head. The earliest owner of the territory was a Welshman named Alexander Reese, who held also the present Keen and Eli Morris farms on the opposite side of Pine Run. No deeds are on record concerning the transfers of any of these properties prior to the Revolution.

We can only gain some glimpses of their history by recitals of later deeds, by boundaries of adjoining lands, and by tradition. After Alexander Reese, came Evan Reese and by a boundary of 1736 we find mention of David Reese as the owner. Following the Reese family

as owners came David Edwards and then John Williams, who was born in Wales in 1709. The time of his purchase and the length of his ownership can only be conjectured, but his coming was probably as early as 1740.

Tradition merely says he lived here and built the stone house on the Davidson farm. Williams afterwards removed to the later Worthington place in the northern part of New Britain, near the Hilltown township lines. In the boundary of a neighboring property, Margaret, widow of John Williams, is mentioned as the owner in 1791. He died May 28th, 1781, at the age of 72. His will was witnessed by Robert Shewell, Benjamin Griffith and David Evans. In this document mention is made of his wife Margaret. The daughters were Ann, wife of William Cornell; Mary, wife of Paul McCarty; Sarah, wife of David Worthington; Mary, wife of Morris Eder; Rachel, wife of Abiah James, and Hannah, wife of Thomas Jones. Besides these, sons William and Isaac are mentioned. It was this son-in-law, Thomas Jones, who bought and sold the adjoining Harry farm in 1764 to David Evans, and he may, for a time, have held this place.

Of these daughters of John Williams, Rachel, born in 1746, married Abiah James September 22d, 1773, and died December 1st, 1834, aged near 89 years. Her children were Margaret, wife of Joshua Riale; Col. Nathan James, an officer in the war of 1812; Elizabeth, wife of William Hines; Abiah, who married Pamela Jones; Martha, and Benjamin W., who married Elizabeth Black. The latter was the father of Abiah R. James, a well-known farmer of Doylestown township.

The record of transfers after the departure of Williams appears to be lost. We only know that the ownership fell into the hands of the Callendar family, after the Revolution. The Davidson place and also the McConnell farm was part of the estate of John Callendar, of which 67 acres were in 1802 adjudged to John Hines, a son-in-law, in right of his wife Mary.

In 1807, the two farms were separated, when John Hines sold 52 acres to his brother-in-law, John Callendar. In 1815, Lawrence Emery was the purchaser from Mason James. He had bought the McConnell farm also in 1813 from Jesse Callendar, and for a time held both places. Emery, the same year (1815), sold the later Davidson farm to Elias Long, of Tinicum, who kept possession ten years, selling in 1825 to Abraham R. Kephart. Samuel Fries bought of Kephart in 1827. Samuel Garner appears to

have bought it some time after, as he died March 30th, 1828, leaving a widow Mary who retained the ownership until her death in 1847. In her will mention is made of seven children: John, Nancy, wife of Frank Davidson; Samuel, George, Jesse, Sarah, wife of Charles Hinkle; Mary, wife of Abraham R. Kephart.

After the death of Nancy Davidson, in 1832, Lydia, her daughter, purchased the property, which she sold to Aaron L. Gehman in 1884.

The later McConnell farm was sold by Lewis Emery in 1822 to Lewis Summers, who retained it for seventeen years. The next purchaser was Jacob Stone, from Nockamixon, who came here in 1839. The name has been Anglicised from the German name of Stein. There is also an



English name, Stone, common in the New England States. Stone had a large family of children, which in later years became widely scattered in different parts of the United States. One of the sons, Amos Stone, has long been a resident of Doylestown. Jacob Stone died in 1848, and in 1851 his executors sold to John C'oulke, who in 1855 sold to William McConnell, of Buckingham, E. M.

From, *Enterprise*  
*Newtown Pa.*  
 Date, *Mar 18<sup>th</sup> 1893*



KEITH HOUSE, UPPER MAKEFIELD.

# WASHINGTON'S HEADQUARTERS IN BUCKS COUNTY.

NO. 2.

KEITH'S\*.

To carry out the idea (expressed in the article published in the ENTERPRISE of February 25th) General Washington departed, no doubt, with much regret from Mr Barclay's fine home at Morrisville, and moved to the farm house of William Keith, also in Bucks county, and still standing. This dwelling was built as early as 1763. It is a two story, with pent roof and attic, pointed stone house, twenty-four by twenty-eight feet. The front door is in two folds set in a solid oaken frame and garnished with a wooden lock, the same which locked out intruders when Washington occupied the house. The interior finish in yellow pine remains unchanged, and one room has never been disfigured by the painter's brush.

Washington, according to General W. W. H. Davis, probably occupied the main front room down stairs for an office and the one back of it for his bedchamber. How often he ascended and descended the stairway between the two rooms with heavy heart, especially while making ready for Trenton, is a matter that can only be conjectured.

The same old roof that sheltered the house from the storm during Washington's day still covers it. It has, however, been

protected with a tin surface. At one time the front yard was inclosed by a stone wall, but that has long since been taken away. The property has always remained in the hands of the Keith family; it was purchased originally from the London Company by William Keith. Washington's reasons for locating at this place, no doubt, were that it was near the upper fords of the Delaware, at which it was supposed the enemy would attempt to cross, and was also within a few hours' ride of Newtown, the depot for supplies.

It was while at Keith's that Washington received information that General Lee had been taken prisoner on the morning of the 13th at a place called Vealtown, now Bernardsville, N. J. General Lee's capture was largely due to his disregard of Washington's orders and appeals for him to join the main army. He dragged along through New Jersey so slowly that he only reached Morristown on the 11th of December, having crossed the Hudson on the 4th. On the 12th he marched to Bernardsville, taking up his headquarters three miles from the town, at the tavern of Mrs. White, at Basking Ridge, and was taken prisoner the following morning. He was not exchanged until April 21, 1778. He rejoined the army at Valley Forge May 20.

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It was while at Keith's that General Washington's army was considerably aug-



mented by about 2000 Philadelphia militia and by several hundred of the county militia. He, however, wrote to his brother from the old farm house, under date of December 18: "I think our affair is in a very bad condition. You can form no idea of the perplexity of my situation. No man, I believe, ever had a greater choice of difficulties, and less means to extricate himself from them. However, with a full persuasion of the justice of our cause, I cannot entertain an idea that it will finally sink, although it may remain for some time under a cloud."

At Keith's Washington remained until the night of that eventful December 25, when the army crossed the Delaware river at midnight at McKonkey's Ferry, now Taylorsville, and marched on to Trenton. After the surprise of the Hessians at Trenton, the General recrossed the river at the same point and took up his headquarters at Newtown.

General Davis in his "History of Bucks County" further says:

"The property was purchased by William Keith a century and a quarter ago of the London Company, contains two hundred and forty acres, and has never been out of the family. The situation, on the south side of Jericho Hill, is retired and pleasantly exposed to the sun. The Merrick house, a fourth of a mile away across the fields, on the road from Newtown to Neely's mill, is a stone dwelling, twenty feet square, with a kitchen at the west end, and the farm was bought by Samuel Merrick in 1773, and now belongs to Edward, his descendant. When Greene occupied it the first floor was divided into three rooms, now all thrown into one, and the family lived in the kitchen. As the house was recently built, and not yet finished, the General caused the walls of the room he occupied to be tastefully painted, with a picture of the rising sun over the fire-place. At this time Samuel Merrick had a family of half grown children about him, who were deeply impressed with passing events, and whose descendants are full of traditions of the times. Greene purchased the confidence of his young daughter, Hannah, by the gift of a small tea canister, which was kept in the family many years. The Rhode Island blacksmith lived on the fat of the land while quartered on this Upper Makefield farmer, devouring his flock of turkeys, and monopolizing his only fresh cow, besides eating her calf. In return he allowed the family to use sugar from the barrel bought for his own mess. At the last supper before Trenton, when Washington was the guest of Greene, the daughter Hannah waited upon the table, and kept the plate from which he ate as a memento of the occasion. The Chapman mansion, the quarters of Knox and Hamilton, and now owned by Edward Johnson, on the opposite side of Jericho Hill, a mile from Brownsburg, is in excellent condition, and is the best house of the Revolutionary period we have seen in the county. Knox occupied the first floor of the east end, then divided into two rooms, but now all in one, twenty-five by seventeen feet. Hamilton,

then a captain of artillery, lay sick in the back room. The late Peter G. Cattell, who lived and died on an adjoining farm, used to relate that he saw Washington at Knox's quarters."

#### OLD NEWSPAPERS.

It is quite interesting to look over old local newspapers, published so long ago that not a name printed therein represents a person now living. The venerable John G. Spencer, of Oxford Valley, has sent to the ENTERPRISE office four old newspapers—named and dated as follows:

*Bucks County Patriot*, published at Doylestown by Edward Morris and S. R. Kramer, date January 16, 1826.

Same paper, same publishers, date January 8, 1827.

*Bucks County Republican and Anti-Masonic Register*, Doylestown, John Heart, publisher, date May 8, 1832.

*Olive Branch*, Doylestown, Franklin P. Sellers, publisher, date April 19, 1843.

Let us take up the first mentioned, and see what there is in it of interest. Five columns on a page, much wider than those of its successor of to-day—four pages. First page all advertisements. John Jones, as administrator, advertises at public sale farm of 53 acres in Buckingham, late the property of Ann Gillingham, bounded by lands of James Jamison, John Simpson and Israel Lancaster. Whose place is it now? Charles E. DuBois was clerk of the sale. He was a Doylestown lawyer. It is not customary now for lawyers to clerk sales. Benjamin Taylor, administrator, offers for sale farm of Henry Burroughs of 201 acres in Upper Makefield, adjoining lands of Jacob Cadwallader, David Coleman and others. This is probably now divided, part of Edward Carey's and part of Wm. Church's farms. Chas. E. DuBois is also clerk of this sale. A tract of land of over 2000 acres in Northampton county is offered for sale by Luke W. and Isaac W. Morris, of Philadelphia. It is on the Lackawaxen creek in (now) Pike county, and stocked with white pine timber. It is on a turnpike road over which "stages from New York pass daily." (This is the old Montrose pike, now abandoned, and cannot be passed over with carriages on account of fallen timber, &c.). Jacob Kintner, the Sheriff, advertises a farm in Buckingham the property of Joseph Cary. It joins lands of David Bradshaw and Samuel Iden, contains 24 acres, and must be the property now occupied by John S. Bailey. A farm for rent owned by Jenet Risk, and occupied by Wm. Biles, of 150 acres in Middletown township. Whose farm now? David P. Simmons advertises a "plantation" for sale in Solebury, containing 117 acres. It is on the road from Doylestown to Lumberville, three miles from the latter and six from the former, and one mile from Milton, formerly the property of John Worthington, and adjoining Benjamin White, Israel Anderson and others. Whose farm now? Yeamans Pickering advertises at private sale a lot of 20 acres half a mile above Buckingham Meeting House. The executors of Jane Shoemaker, deceased, advertise the mill property in Bensalem on "Poquesin" creek at head of



tide-water. Hugh B. Ely advertises at public sale his farm in Buckingham, of 130 acres. He did not sell it, for he lived there several years afterward. Jonathan Pearson, executor, advertises the late residence and farm of Joseph Hambleton, in Solebury, together with the personal property. Peter Monday lived thereon. This is near or at the present Solebury creamery. The Hatboro grist mill is for rent, the property of Jacob Chrystler, of Philadelphia. This property has changed hands often. The personal property of John Paff, deceased, in Upper Makefield, is advertised to be sold by William Paff and T. Cadwallader, executors. "Continue from day to day till all is sold." Not so many sales then as now. The real estate of Israel Penrose, of Buckingham, is advertised to be sold at public sale. It was the upper mill at Mechanics' Valley, adjoining lands of Samuel Gillingham, Robert Walker and Jonas Fell, grist, saw and oil mills, plenty of water, 24 feet fall, and sixty acres of land. Joseph and Frances Campbell advertise a farm for sale in Solebury, 3 miles from New Hope, adjoining lands of Edward Blackfan, Robert Smith and others, of 140 acres. Whose farm now? It must have been near Solebury Meeting House, but does not say so. The executors of William Rodman, deceased, advertise for sale a tract of about 800 acres in Warwick, also about 20 acres in Bensalem, on the Newport road to Philadelphia. This large tract in Warwick is thus described: "It is 2 miles from Doylestown. Four hundred acres of the land is woodland of a very superior description. Much of the wood is fit for ship timber, and Doylestown and the lime kilns of Buckingham furnishes a ready market for fire wood." Only 67 years ago, yet 400 acres of virgin forest two miles from the county seat! "Valuable for ship timber." Then there was great demand for oak "knees" cut from the roots and limbs of white oak trees for wooden ships. Now ships are made of steel and iron and no demand for "knees." Doylestown and the Buckingham lime kilns wanted a great deal of wood. Now everybody burns coal, and the Buckingham lime quarries have even passed through the era of coal lime burning, and are mostly torn down or stand as ruins like the old castles of Europe. The advertisement says the tract is at present divided into four farms, and buildings poor. This property is now partly the alms house farm. Where was the alms house in 1826? For the county statement in that paper contains the sum of \$8600 for the "Bucks County Alms House." Where was the alms house when the court house was at Newtown, and up to the time the present buildings were erected on the Rodman property?

We have now gone over the real estate offered for sale at that time, and what more of interest can we see in this old paper? At this date the division of the county was agitated. The public buildings had been at Doylestown fourteen years, and yet there was a lingering desire to return to the old place. It is hard to get out of old ruts. A meeting had been held against

the move, and the proceedings were published in this paper. Here is an extract from the preamble to the resolution: "But we are told that a court house and jail are already erected at Newtown, but what are they—the shadow without the reality! They have long since been in a state of dilapidation, and the consuming band of time has now rendered them unfit for public use—if dire necessity should render it necessary to occupy them for what they were originally designed." William Purdy was chairman of the meeting, Chas. Vanartsdalen and Jesse L. Booz, secretaries, and committees were appointed to circulate remonstrances to the Legislature in all the lower townships. In Newtown were the names of John Milnor, Thomas Moslin and James M. Torbert. But enough space has been devoted to the paper, and we may take it up at another day.

From, *Democrat*  
Doylestown Pa.  
Date, *Mar. 14* "1893.

#### AN OLD LANDMARK DEMOLISHED.

The quaint one-story house on the road leading from Chalfont to New Britain, midway between the two villages, has been partly demolished and is now unfit for occupancy. It is one of the oldest houses in this section of the county, having been erected in 1745 upon the site of a log hut destroyed by fire a year before. The property upon which the building is located was owned by the Mathews family for five generations. The original log hut was built by one of the first settlers of New Britain township.

From, *Democrat*  
Doylestown Pa.  
Date, *Mar. 23* "1893.

#### AN OLD LOCK.

#### HISTORY OF A LANDMARK INCIDENTALLY MENTIONED.

A Curious Relic of Our Forefathers.—Some Early Reminiscences of the Prominent Mathews Family, in New Britain Township.

ON Friday afternoon, E. R. Mathews, Esq., of Doylestown township, left at the DEMOCRAT office an old iron door lock, forged by some early Colonial blacksmith, who must have been quite a



genius in the use of his hammer, for the relic is simply a wonderful combination of springs, bolts, latches, etc. The old dwelling is now in the course of demolition. Following is a sketch of the lock, building and tract of land, written some years ago by the historian, Edward Mathews, now published for the first time:

This ancient lock, whose quaint construction and workmanship may excite some curiosity, was affixed to the door of an old one-story house still standing in New Britain township. It is one of the oldest buildings in the surrounding region, and the time of its erection dates back for more than one hundred and thirty years. It was erected by one John Mathew, and the property has remained in the family name until a recent period. The history of the first purchase of the property is here given, together with some incidents which have been preserved concerning the building of the house in question.

The earliest mention that we find of the purchase of the soil by emigrants from Europe was that of an English company formed in London in 1632, by the name and title of the Free Society of Traders, who purchased a large tract of land, 8,300 acres in extent, now situated in parts of New Britain and Doylestown townships, and extending from Doylestown nearly as far west as the county line. The exact time and date of their first purchase of this property was probably not much earlier than 1720, as we find by an old deed that on March 25, 1724, Charles Reed, Job Goodson, Evan Owen, George Fitzwater and Joseph Pidgeon, who had been appointed trustees by an Act of the Colonial Assembly to sell the lands of the above Society of Free Traders, did then sell to Jeremiah Langhorne, then Chief Justice of the Province, the large tract of 5,200 acres of land. This tract, it will be seen, would form a territory half the size of the present township of New Britain, covering more than eight square miles of land.

This Langhorne, we may presume, was a sort of land speculator, as we soon find him dividing it up into smaller tracts and selling it out in small parcels to various parties, and most likely he never made any improvements on the land, but lived either in Philadelphia, or in some distant part of the county. On the 15th day of May, 1729, five years afterwards, he sold part of this large tract to Joseph Kirkbride, another land dealer, who, two years later, by a deed given in his name and that of Mary, his wife, on the 11th of October, 1731, sold to David Stephens 227 acres and 53 perches; and at the same time he sold 167 acres adjoining this to Thomas James.

Here, then, we find the names of the first bona fide settlers who came to build houses, improve the land and to stay. Meanwhile, a little sooner, on the 18th of November, Simon Mathew bought a tract of land, containing 147 acres, of one James Steel and Martha, his wife, of Philadelphia. This Steel is recorded as a "Gentleman." Afterwards, we presume in 1731, Simon Mathew bought 197 acres of Joseph Kirkbride, it being part of the original 5,200 acres originally belonging to Langhorne.

This Simon Mathew (the name was originally spelt without the final "s")

now affixed to it) was the most remote ancestor of the family in this country. He came from Wales, in company with his brother-in-law, Simon Butler, about the year 1712 and first settled in what is now Delaware, then Chester county and adjacent to the Schuylkill. He was born probably in 1683, or thereabouts, in Pembrokeshire, Wales, as John Mathias, the ancestor of the Mathias family, came from Nevers Parrish, in that county, and we are informed that Mathias and Mathew were originally the same name.

He had three sons, Thomas, John and Edward, and perhaps others whose names are lost in oblivion. He had been married in Wales, and his eldest son, John, was born in 1713 in Chester county, soon after his arrival in America. Simon Mathew died in 1753 or 1754 and must have been pretty well advanced in life, as we find that his son, John, was born forty years before.

Simon, the father, near the close of his life, made a will bearing date the 23th of December, 1751, bequeathing a portion of his property to his son Thomas, whom he also made his sole executor. It is supposed that Thomas, although the younger, was the most capable man for business, as he could write a fair hand, while John, his brother, made his "mark," as did Dinah, his wife. Soon after, on the 7th day of July, 1757, Thomas gave a deed to John, fully confirming him in the possession of the above 147 acres, as it seems he had never got a deed from his father, though he had possession of the land.

In this Thomas acknowledged the receipt of the purchase money by his father. Thomas Mathew and his wife, Mary, set their signatures to this ancient document, that of Mary in poor, dim and uncertain characters. It was sealed and delivered in the presence of Edward Mathew and Griffith Owen, and acknowledged before Simon Butler, justice of the peace. Simon Butler had built and then owned a mill, which at the time of this writing is the property of George Grove, and Simon Mathew lived at it, or adjacent to it, and probably was joint owner of the mill, as in this deed the race is spoken of as belonging to both parties. Edward Mathew was possessed of land on the western side of this race course.

The property on which this old house is situated came into possession of John Mathew as the gift of his father, we presume at the time of his marriage or before, or between 1735 and 1738. The time of the erection of the first house is not known, but probably a little earlier than these dates, and likely was a small log structure just sufficient for the needs and wants of the early pioneer. John Mathew was married in 1738 to Dinah Thomas, and they had seven children, two sons and five daughters. John lived until 1782, and his tomb may be seen in New Britain graveyard; but his stout wife lived on till 1801. The little girl was born in Wales in 1721, and arrived in this country when five years of age. She had been orphaned by losing her mother, who had closed her eyes in death on the waters of the stormy sea; but she was destined to live on through all the years of the eighteenth century. At her death she was eighty years of age. She had seven or eight children that arrived at maturity, and numerous grandchildren had looked upon her aged face and their children too, had looked with wonder at her wrinkled countenance.



Benjamin, their oldest child, was born in 1739, and an incident in the childhood of this son, which has been handed down by tradition, enables us to approximate nearly to the time of the erection of the old house. It is that when a little boy, five years old, or in 1744, his father, John, in September of that year, was sowing wheat on a windy day. His mother was gone from home, leaving him in charge of a hired girl then living with the family. The girl had taken the little boy with her to go after the cows, when the house took fire and was burned to the ground, with all its contents. It is presumed that the erection of a new house as a shelter from the coming winter would be immediately commenced, and the portion of the house from which the lock above mentioned was taken, was probably erected in 1744 or 1745. The house remained in possession of the descendants of John Mathew for four generations succeeding, finally passing from the family name, in 1866.

From, *Democrat*

*Doylestown Pa.*

Date, *April 14<sup>th</sup> 1893,*

### THE 104TH FLAG.

#### THE OLD RELIC DEPOSITED IN THE COURT ROOM.

A Handsome Oak Case to Enclose Its Sacred Folds.—A Sketch of a Standard which Passed Through Stirring War Scenes.

IN a quiet way, on Thursday afternoon, and without the least ceremony, the regimental flag of the 104th Pennsylvania regiment was deposited in the court room, in a handsome case made for the purpose at the expense of the county. The case stands in the space between the doors that lead to the Judge's room and the law library, and in a position to be seen from nearly all parts of the large room.

This beautiful piece of woodwork, which is quite an ornament to the court room, is fourteen feet long by about a foot and a half wide, and is made of solid polished oak. It has a pretty octagon capital, with a corresponding corbel, the sides of the case being ornamented by turned work. The front is of oval plate-glass, from the establishment of Benjamin H. Shoemaker, Philadelphia. The design for the case was drawn by Architect Hutton. It was made at the factory of Louis Buckman & Son, under the supervision of Frank Gerlitzki, foreman of the wood-working department. The case was put in position yesterday afternoon by Mr. Gerlitzki, Eugene Brower, Janitor Ott and Fireman Gearhart.

The object in depositing the flag in this case was to ensure its safety and, at the

same time, be in a place where it could be seen by anyone who takes an interest in such a valuable relic of our great civil war. It is in such a dilapidated condition from the shot of the enemy and other casualties of war it is no longer in a fit state to be used in public. Sooner or later a place of deposit must have been found for it under any circumstances. When carried in the regiment it was known as the "County Flag," and it seemed meet and proper that it should be returned to the county for safe keeping. In turning it over to the care of the county commissioners, the survivors of the regiment may be assured no harm will befall it. To them it will be a sacred trust.

The flag has an interesting personal history, independent of its service with the regiment. Soon after Colonel Davis began recruiting the 104th, he was notified by Governor Curtin that the Commonwealth would present to the regiment a State flag. His next thought was to procure a regimental flag, and in this he met with success. One evening, in September, 1861, Colonel Davis called upon a lady of Doylestown, who was full of patriotism and took a deep interest in the regiment, stated the need of a regimental flag, and requested her to make an effort to raise money to purchase one. She accepted the office and succeeded in raising from a few patriotic people, \$146.60, the money coming from the following localities: Forestville, \$4.25; Centerville, \$10.25; Newtown, \$17.25; Pineville, \$7; Harmony, \$10.50; Lahaska, \$3.50; New Britain, \$1.50; Mrs. Gibbs, \$6.40; Bridge Point, \$1.00; Bensalem, \$1.00, and Doylestown, \$74.95, more than one-half of the whole. The flag was made by the Messrs. Hortsmann & Co., Philadelphia, of the best quality of silk and of regulation size. On the middle stripe the words "Ringgold Regiment" were beautifully wrought in silver, with the number of the regiment on the next stripe below. With the surplus money, after paying for the flag, there were bought and presented to the men 300 towels, 12 dozen combs and 128 dozen woolen gloves.

The ceremony of presenting the flag to the regiment took place at Camp Lacey, Doylestown, on the 21st of October, in the presence of a very large concourse of people, numbering several thousand, coming from all parts of Bucks county and elsewhere. One-half of the audience at least was ladies. A platform was erected on the parade ground, and the regiments in full uniform, and under arms, was drawn up in front. The affair was in charge of a committee of ladies, who had invited the Rev. Jacob Bellville, of Pottsville, Pa., to present the flag in the name of the fair donors. He made a most impressive speech, which was received with cheers. Colonel Davis received the flag in the name of the regiment, and delivered it into the hands of Color-Sergeant Laughlin, who was charged to preserve it as the apple of his eye. The ceremony passed off with the greatest eclat, the delightful music of the regimental band adding much to the charm of the occasion. The flag followed the fortunes of the regiment from the beginning to the end of its service, having several color bearers, Laughlin the first to carry it being Major of the regiment before the close of the



war. It was present in all engagements, and its folds are covered with the names of battles that have become historic.

At the battle of Fair Oaks, fought May 31st, 1862, in front of Richmond, in fact the first of the series of engagements for the possession of the Confederate Capital, both flags came near falling into the hands of the enemy. In a charge the regiment made in the brush, it became entangled in a worm fence, but one half of it getting over on the enemies side, including the color company. During the severe fighting that now took place the color-bearers stuck the flag staffs in the wet ground and lay down by them. The regiment was finally compelled to fall back, but did so slowly and sullenly, not an officer or man hurrying, but firing as they retired.

In the excitement and confusion the regimental flag was left on the enemy's side of the fence sticking in the ground. Those nearest were ordered to rescue it, when Major Gries, Orderly Sergeant Myers, Co. G, and Color-Sergeant Purcell sprang for it, the enemy springing for it at the same time. Purcell had already secured his own flag, and, with that in his hand, jumped over the fence for the other. He seized it before the enemy reached it, and, with both flags in his hands, sprang for the fence. As he mounted the fence he was struck by a bullet and knocked over, carrying the flags with him. When he got up he handed the rescued flag to Sergeant Myers, who started to the rear with it, but becoming faint from the loss of blood, he handed it to Corporal Michener, who brought it off in safety. Both flags were delivered to the regiment that evening after the battle. It was in the attempt to save the regimental flag that Major Gries received the wound of which he afterward died.

A word as to the State flag, the companion of the regimental flag of the 104th, and which pursued their martial career side by side. It was subsequently presented to the regiment, Governor Curtin making the presentation speech, and Colonel Davis receiving it, and then delivering it to Sergeant Slack, who had been selected to carry it. As on the former and similar occasion, there was a large turnout of people and the affair was one of exceeding interest. When the old regiment was mustered out of service, the county flag was delivered to Colonel Davis, who had taken care of it until yesterday afternoon. The State flag was turned over to the State authorities in 1867, and is deposited at Harrisburg with similar flags from other Pennsylvania regiments that served in the war.

From, *Enterprise*

*Newtown Pa.*

Date, *Mar. 25, 1893.*

# WASHINGTON'S HEADQUARTERS IN BUCKS COUNTY.

NO. 3.

When Washington's little army was encamped at Newtown, in 1776, he made his home in the house now occupied by Alex-

ander German in the township, on Sycamore street. During the Revolutionary war the property belonged to John Harris. Afterward it belonged to John Wynkoop, James Phillips and Dr. Ralph Lee. After Mr. German bought the property of Dr. Lee, he took down the old stone mansion to the ground and on its cellar walls built the present modern structure, a picture of which is given above.

Newtown was one of the most important points in the county during the Revolutionary war. It was for a time Washington's headquarters. At several times troops were stationed here, and it was a depot for military stores. The Hessians captured at Trenton were brought direct to Newtown after the battle. They were lodged in the Presbyterian church, the same building yet standing, on the same street as the headquarters.

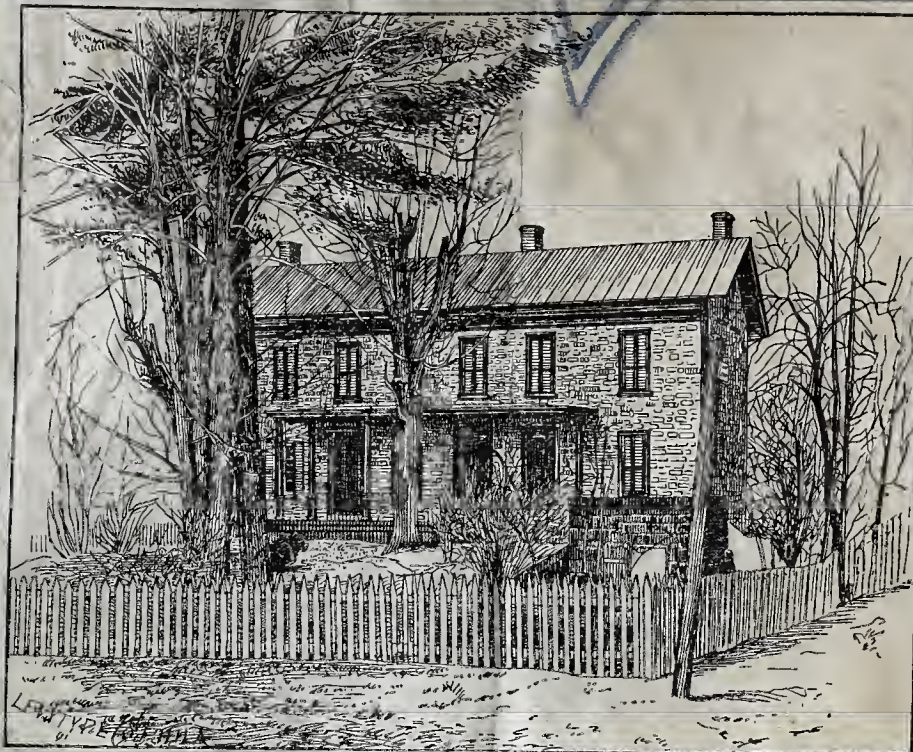
[Extract from Battle's History of Bucks County.]

"The Revolutionary associations of the town are interesting. A pathetic story is told of a soldier boy, who, being sick, was obliged to remain behind his regiment, and placed with others to guard a number of persons engaged in making clothes for the Continental army. They were at work in a house on State street below Washington, and he was in the garret, while the militia was dispersed at different places. The latter were obliged to retreat by a sudden attack of the Tories, but the boy, from his garret window, shot several of the enemy before he himself received a mortal wound. He was buried in a vacant lot at the upper end of the town, but as no tombstone marks the spot, its exact location is not known. General Greene's headquarters during the campaign in this State was at the Brick hotel, then known as Hinkle's. It was from this place that he went in 1776 to the battle of Trenton, and upon his return, some days later, the prisoners were confined in the Presbyterian church. Washington stopped at the house of John Harris, across the creek, for nearly a week, and troops were quartered in the vicinity. Human bones were discovered in the church in making some alterations years ago, supposed to have been the remains of one of the prisoners buried there."

[Extract from Davis's History of Bucks County.]

"John Harris came to Newtown and settled at the townstead, probably as early as 1750. Seven years later he was keeping store there, when he purchased sixty acres of Benjamin Twining, part of the Thomas Rowland tract, on the west side of the creek, which cost him £320. The 21st of September, 1767, he purchased of Nelson Jolly what was called his "upper farm," on the west side of the common. The Presbyterian church stands on the southwest corner. The greater part of this tract is now owned by Alexander German, and the old yellow house, known as 'Washington's Headquarters,' was the homestead of Harris. Gradually John Harris became a considerable land owner, owning over five hundred acres in all. Two hundred and fifty-seven acres lay in Newtown, and as much more in Upper Makefield, part of which was bought by the trustees of the





THE HARRIS HOUSE, NEWTOWN.

London Company, and the remainder from the manor of Highlands. He grew to be a man of note among his fellows, and before 1770 he was written, 'John Harris, merchant,' and 'John Harris, Esqr.' He died the 13th of August, 1773, in his fifty-sixth year, and his widow administered to his estate. Mr. Harris was a leading member of the Newtown Presbyterian church. He married Hannah, a daughter of Charles and Sarah Stewart, of Upper Makefield, and had seven children. Of the children of this marriage, Anne, the eldest, married Dr. Shields, of Philadelphia, and at his death Judge Harry Innes, of Kentucky. Their child, Maria Knox, first married her cousin, Jack Harris Todd, and at his death she became the second wife of Hon. John J. Crittenden. Sarah Harris married Captain Charles Smith, of Wayne's army, Elizabeth, Judge Thomas Todd, of the United States Supreme Court, whose second son, Charles Stewart Todd, was aid-de-camp to General Harrison in 1812, and represented this government at St. Petersburg and at Columbia, South America, and Mary Harris married James Hanna, a lawyer of Newtown, a man of considerable property, and had four children. Commodore Spotts of the navy is a grandson. Jack Harris married Jane Hunt, of New Jersey. His son William was a commander in the navy, and drowned off Vera Cruz during the Mexican war, trying to save the life of a brother officer. Hannah and Rachel Harris died unmarried. The Hannas lived near Newtown, belonged to the old church, and likewise removed to Kentucky."

From, *Intelligencer*

*Daylestown Pa.*

Date, *May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1893*

#### THE ENROLLMENT OF BUCKINGHAM IN THE REVOLUTION.

The exigencies of the unequal struggle of the Colonies with Great Britain during the Revolution made necessary the securing of all the soldiers possible for the American armies, and it was with the greatest difficulty that their ranks could be filled, and often impossible to keep them filled. Congress found it even more difficult to procure these soldiers' food and clothing—and as to pay they received little or none. It was necessary to reach out into the remotest districts and enroll all the able bodied men for possible service. The following list probably includes the men of all ages living in Buckingham in the year 1775. Such a list has never before been published and one is at first surprised at the number of names. The township was already comparatively densely populated. It had been but three-quarters of a century since the first settlement, and in the Colonial period population increased but slowly. The township, however, was all arable except the mountain and some portions were extremely fertile. An inspection of the roll shows a pretty solid array of English



names. There are a few Scotch-Irish and a few Welsh, such as Meredith, Eaton, Thomas, Davis, Roberts and Jones. The name VanHorn is Hollander, as is probably also Stirk. The names of German origin are even fewer, such as Conrad, Clemens, Wireman, Root, Kulp and Shaffer.

The Wiremans came into the township from New Britain, and originally from Hatfield. The preponderance of people of English stock continues to-day; but now, especially in the western corner of Buckingham, we find a very considerable proportion of German names. Since the time of the Revolution there has been a marked change of population in all the central townships of Bucks, owing to the invasion of people of Teutonic origin. In Hilltown and New Britain this change has been from one-half to nine-tenths; in Doylestown from one-fourth to one-half. It has also been noticeable in Plumstead and the south corner of Bedminster, and perhaps felt least of all in Solebury.

Buckingham was first settled by Friends, and at the time of the Revolution was largely a Quaker township. We need not, therefore, be surprised at the smallness of the military company in proportion to the Non-Associators. The latter, of course, included the older men. From religious scruples, a very large portion of her people were opposed to bearing arms. Perhaps more joined the military at a later period, but in no such numbers as in such townships as Hilltown, Warminster and Southampton.

The Fells were the most numerous of any family, being fifteen in number, all descendants of Joseph Fell, an Englishman, who came into the township in 1706. Of the Worthingtons there were seven, and they are also numerous to the present day.

This enrollment bears the date of August 21, 1775. The Militia Company had forty-five men commanded by Captain John Lacey; First Lieutenant, John Wilson; Second Lieutenant, Samuel Smith, and Ensign, William Bennett.

#### PRIVATES.

Moses Atkinson,	Wm. Simpson, Sr.,
Adam Barr,	Wm. Simpson, Jr.,
Thomas Barr,	John Simpson,
John Bogert,	Thomas Smith,
Ebenezer Carter,	John Slack,
Thomas Demming,	William Stokesbury
Thomas Dougherty,	John Sproll,
Thomas Drennen,	John Sample,
William Finney,	William Sample,
Benjamin Flack,	Levy Sterling,
Mark Halfpenny,	James Sample, Jr.,
John Huston,	William Sloane,
Thomas Huston,	Henry Stirk,
William Kickwood,	John Thomas,
Adam Lockherd,	James Tueker,
Adam Middleton,	John Tucker,
Silas Martin,	Joseph VanHorn,
Isaac Osmond,	David Winsor,
John Rice,	Morris Welsh.
William Robinson,	

#### NON-ASSOCIATORS.

Isaac Anderson,	Joseph Kirk,
James Anderson,	John Kinsey,
James Anderson,	Isaac Kinsey,
Mye Addis,	Benjamin Kinsey,
Samuel Austen,	John Kinsey,
William Beans,	George Kinsey,
Jonathan Beans,	David Kinsey,
Joseph Barbin,	Jonathan Kinsey,
John Bradfield,	John Kinsey,
Jonathan Bradfield,	John Kelly,
Abner Bradfield,	George Kelly,

William Bradfield,	William Kimble,
John Brown,	Anthony Kimble,
John Brown, Jr.,	John Kimble,
George Brown,	Christop'er Kimble,
John Burgess,	Joseph Large,
Thomas Betts, Jr.,	John Large,
John Betts,	Jasner Lacey,
William Betts,	Isaac Lacey,
John Bradshaw,	Benjamin Lacey,
David Bradshaw,	William Mitchell,
Amos Bradshaw,	Robert Malone,
William Beall,	James Malone,
John Beall,	John Malone,
Joseph Beall,	Richard Meredith,
Thomas Bye, Jr.,	George Mitchell,
James Boner,	John Miller,
Henry Boner,	Robert Miller,
Thomas Booz,	Thomas Kirk,
John Conrad,	Henry O. Neill,
Joel Carver,	David Newburn,
William Carver, Jr.,	William Osmond,
Joseph Carver, Jr.,	Philip Perryor Parry
Charles Carter,	John Perry,
Benjamin Cutler,	John Perry,
John Campbell,	William Penquite,
John Clemens,	Charles Poulton,
Joseph Church,	Thomas Poulton,
Moses Church,	Joseph Piekering,
Joseph Cowan,	Joseph Preston,
John Carr,	William Preston,
Thomas Colbert,	Samuel Preston,
George Childs,	Thomas Roberts,
William Davis,	Isaac Roberts,
John Ely,	John Richardson,
William Ely,	Thomas Rice,
Samuel Eastburn,	Cornelius Root,
David Eaton,	John Robinson,
William Field,	John Robbins,
John Fell,	Conrad Shepherd,
Thomas Fell,	William Simpson,
Asa Fell,	Michael Shaffer,
George Fell,	John Stirk,
Joseph Fell,	John Shrigley,
Jonathan Fell,	Thomas Smith,
Morris Fell,	Samuel Smith,
Jesse Fell,	Samuel Smith,
Isaac Fell,	Joseph Stogdall,
Samuel Fell,	David Stogdall,
Mahlon Fell,	John Tueker, Jr.,
William Fell,	John Thomas,
Zervis Fell,	Evan Thomas,
Nathan Fell,	John Tomlinson,
Thomas Fell,	David Worstall,
Robert Fisher,	Daniel Wiggins,
Robert Fisher,	William Wood,
Patrick Fenton,	Amos White,
Josiah Fenton,	John Walton,
Ephraim Fenton,	Joshua Walton,
Eleazar Fenton,	Jos. Worthington,
John Freestone,	Thos. Worthington,
Daniel Farst,	Isaac Worthington,
William Flack,	Jesse Walton,
John Flack,	Jacob Walton, Jr.,
Thomas Gilbert, Jr.,	Jos. Worthington,
Joshua Gilbert,	Wm. Worthington,
David Gilbert,	Mahlon Worth'gton,
John Gillingham,	Jos. Worthington,
James Gillingham,	Stephen Wilson,
Randall Hinton,	Oliver Wilson,
Benjamin Harmon,	David Wilson,
Samuel Harmon,	Thomas Wood,
Thomas Hartley,	Benjamin Wood,
Robert Herrin,	Thomas Wood,
William Hibbs,	Watson Welding,
George Hillyard,	George Walton,
Andrew Harmer,	Joseph Wilkinson,
Samuel Harrold,	Isaac Wiggins,
Nathan Hummer,	George Wall,
Robert Johnson,	George Walter,
Thomas Jones,	Christian Wireman,
Martha Johnson,	John Wireman,
Jacob Kulp,	Thomas West,
William Kirk,	John Young.



From, *Intelligencer*

*Doylestown Pa*

Date, *May 27<sup>th</sup> 1893,*

### LOCAL HISTORY.

**The Aaron Homesteads and Family.**

**Moses Aaron, of Hilltown, and**

**Moses Aaron, of New Britain—**

**Samuel Aaron, the Orator,**

**Preacher and Teacher.**

The Aaron plantation was a half mile or more northward of New Britain village, and within the present limits of Doylestown township. It is now mostly comprised in the farms of Lafayette Hinkle and the Huland estate. The land slopes gently northwest to the borders of Pine Run, which the Hilltown road crosses by a covered bridge. The original buildings were on the premises of Lafayette Hinkle, a short distance from the highway. In the rear there is a strip of woodland bordering Pine Run. The two farms have been separated since 1801, and this whole plantation in the last century comprised two hundred acres.

#### MOSES AARON.

Moses Aaron came from Wales and was an original settler of Hilltown, where he bought over 150 acres of land in 1730. Here is a large stone house, with dormer windows, now untenanted. The premises are now partly owned by C. Boyd, and was the former Bodder place just above the New Britain line. The buildings are reached by a long lane from the township line road, and behind which a steep wooded ridge cosily protects the premises from the western blasts. Moses Aaron was a Baptist and a member of Montgomery church. He lived here till his death in 1766, though meantime he had bought the New Britain property, so as to have a farm for each of his sons, Moses and Obed. He married rather late in life, Mrs. Elizabeth Butler, widow of Benjamin Butler and daughter of Thomas James, whose husband had died near Chalfont in June 1751. The time of this marriage is supposed to have been about 1754, when he was past fifty. He had four children, who, when he made his will in 1765, are spoken of as all being minors under fourteen. He was a shoemaker as well as farmer.

#### WILL OF MOSES AARON.

This will was registered not at Doylestown, but in Philadelphia and strangely enough, not among the wills, but the administrations, so that it is likely to have escaped the notice of local historians. By this will it appears that Moses Aaron was

a slaveholder, though his grandson afterwards made such a sturdy fight against the "peculiar institution." This will was made February 1st, 1765, and registered July 2d, 1766. In the records of Montgomery church his death is mentioned in the latter year. The purport of the will was as follows: His widow Elizabeth was to live in his dwelling along with his minor children, and further the testator says "To my wife my negro woman Abigail." To "Moses, my eldest son, that messuage plantation lying in New Britain, in that part called Society, containing two hundred acres." Of this he was not to become possessed till reaching twenty-one, which was not till 1776. Also "to Moses one good wagon and one negro man named James." To his eldest daughter Rachel £150, and the same amount to his other daughter, Hannah. To "my youngest son Obed, the plantation in Hilltown, where I now live." Joseph Griffith and Morris Morris, both of New Britain, were made guardians of his wife and children, and Thomas Thomas, of Hilltown, was the executor of the will. The witnesses were Henry Lewis, John Farrell and William Davis.

The Hilltown homestead remained in possession of the Aaron family for three generations. Obed Aaron, the son of Moses, born in 1760, held it till his death in April, 1837. His son, Derostus, succeeded him. The latter sold 135 acres in 1842 to Charles Rowland. Derostus Aaron died November 30th 1859, in his 54th year, from a nervous fever. The property has since passed through several hands. It is said of Rowland, that being a strong Whig he bet so much money on the election of Henry Clay in 1844, and losing, was forced to sell the property, which he did to Daniel Johns.

Elizabeth Aaron, the widow of Moses, and who was much younger, survived her husband for fifteen years, or till the summer of 1781. She had been born in 1725. Her will was registered September of that year. She had held possession of a negro slave, here called Dinah. The latter was willed to her daughter Rachel, who had married John Kelly. The other daughter, Hannah, had married Jonathan Jones, and to whom she gave a small legacy. The son Obed, with whom she lived, got the remainder of her personal estate. Mention is made of a daughter Ann, by her first husband, Benjamin Butler, who had married Thomas Morris.

The wife of Obed Aaron was Sarah, daughter of Owen Owen, of Hilltown. She died in 1817. Their children were Mary, Elizabeth, Catharine, Harriet, Ury, Sabra, John and Derostus. Of these, Mary married Jesse Jenkins, of Hatfield. Her daughter Margaret is the wife of Martin Evans, a well-known citizen of Doylestown. Derostus married Caroline, daughter of Jacob Bodder. His children were Horatio, Samuel, Annabella, Amelia, Irwin, John and Hughes. Of these, John is a citizen of Lansdale, and Samuel died in Hilltown, the winter of 1893. His son Lemuel is a resident of Philadelphia. Mary, daughter of Obed Aaron, married Robert Heaton and left children, Edmund, Eliza and Barilla. Irwin Aaron is the well-known auctioneer, now living in Yardley.

#### THE NEW BRITAIN HOMESTEAD.

The New Britain plantation to which this sketch more particularly relates, was early acquired by Moses Aaron,



though he was not a resident on it. The land had remained in forest till the middle of the last century, a portion then probably being swampy. It was bought by William Moss from Lawrence Growden and Langhorne Biles, executors of Jeremiah Langhorne, in 1748, when 112 acres were conveyed for £134. Moss was a Welshman, and his name was a contraction from "Moses." The boundaries were: "Beginning at corner of land that Samuel Martin lives upon; thence by same southwest 100 perches; then by Aaron James and Thomas James northwest 179 perches; then by William James and John Thomas northeast 100 perches; then by Thomas John and Evan Stephens southeast 179 perches to beginning." Samuel Martin held the Godshalk mill property, the present farms of John Jacoby and Joseph S. Angeny as a tenant, and not as an owner. Aaron James held the present Keely property, but was not the owner. In the following year (1749) Moss sold the 112 acres to Thomas James in two pieces, the smaller being of 20 acres, and in 1750 Thomas James sold to Moses Aaron 187 acres. This must have included 75 acres besides the 112, of which we do not have the previous record. Moss died in Warwick in December, 1753. There is a possibility that he had lived here as a tenant before 1750. There is a tradition, which cannot be verified, that he was in some manner dispossessed of the part later held by Thomas James in a manner not satisfactory. His wife, who was a scold, was fiercely indignant, and in her wrath formally pronounced a "curse" upon the property. In later times the older and more superstitious neighbors, when they saw evidences of bad farming or mismanagement on the part of succeeding owners, were wont to say, "See Poll Moss' curse yet rests upon the doomed premises."

During the long interval of a quarter of a century between 1750 and 1776, when the younger Moses Aaron became of age, it is not known who farmed the premises. It is certain that there were buildings there in 1765, as such are mentioned in the will of Moses Aaron.

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These executors sold the farm to Simon Calendar in 1807, but who, in 1810 conveyed to Erasmus Kelly. He was the owner in 1817, but some later transfers are not recorded. John C. Murphy was the owner after this time. In 1826, Obed Aaron bought of Sheriff Joseph Kintner 73 acres. He lived there for near a quarter of a century. He married Mary, daughter of Samuel Mason, and had three daughters. Of these, Hannah married Lewis B. Thompson, a Doylestown lawyer, whilst Sarah Jane married Alfred Marple. Obed Aaron was an ardent Jacksonian Democrat in his youth. In his later years when despondent, his friends had only to refresh his mind with memories of "Old Hickory" and all would be bright again. He sold the homestead in 1848, and some years later removed to the toll gate on the Whitehallville turnpike in Horsham, now kept by Christian Kerns. His death took place August 6, 1870, at the age of 72. An impenetrable mystery hangs over the fate of Erasmus Aaron. He disappeared and though much search was made for his body, it was never found. The third Moses Aaron had sons, Silas H. and Charles, the former well known in and near Doylestown.

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#### THE HULANDS FARM.

This portion of the old Aaron plantation was detached in 1801, when Moses Aaron sold to John Riale 64 acres. It was probably about this time when buildings were put here, but this is only conjecture. It was a Riale place for more than sixty years. David Riale bought of his father in 1825. Both were men of ability and prominent in the community, and both were justices of the peace. John Riale died in 1846 at the great age of 87, and his son, David, reached a similar long life. The later transfers have been: 1864, David Riale to Theodore M. Hoffman, 76 acres; 1870, Hoffman to John Hulands, whose sudden death occurred only a few months ago. E. M.

[To be continued.]

From, *Intelligencer*  
Doylestown Pa.  
Date, *June 2<sup>d</sup> 1893.*

#### THE ENROLLMENT OF HILLTOWN IN THE REVOLUTION.

As townships go in Bucks, Hilltown is a district of imperial dimensions and one of the most populous within the county. It extends half way across the county. From Line Lexington to Dublin is over six miles, whilst from Telford to Grier's



Corner is a distance of eight miles. It contains several towns of considerable size, whilst along the county line at its northwest corner is a continuous village for nearly a mile. Its surface is mostly composed of the highlands or summit level and the slopes. The great decline is northwest towards the Perkiomen. Along the centre and southwest there is a short, steep slope southeastward towards the Neshaminy and the New Britain line. The east corner comprises a high level extending to Dublin, and then the long slope towards the East Branch. The highlands divide near Mt. Pleasant into two ridges, between which is the third slope or valley, within which rises and flows the Neshaminy, and trending southwest to the county line at Hockertown.

As to population in Colonial times there was here a very different state of things compared with Buckingham, though only a few miles distant. In the first there was a homogeneous people, with a common language and faith. In the second, a heterogeneous population differing in race, language and religious faith, without cohesion or affinity for common action in public affairs. The enrollment of 1775 reveals several curious facts. It contains 168 names, of which half, or 85, were German—a refutation of the fallacy that in the earlier times the Welsh were the sole people in Hilltown. There has been a change of population since, but not so great as some local historians would have us believe. At present the German names comprise nine-tenths of the whole. These people of German descent comprise two great classes—the Mennonites and the "church people," or Lutherans and Reformed; together with a few of minor sects. These two classes generally are opposed in politics and sometimes in regard to the public schools. The fact that Hilltown has long been a Whig and Republican township has been due to the predominance of the Mennonite element. The descendants of the old Reformed and Lutherans have mostly remained Democrats through all the mutations of politics. Whilst the Welsh and Scotch-Irish remained in considerable numbers they were also mostly Democrats, although with some exceptions. In Revolutionary times these English speaking people took a more pronounced and active part in the struggle than the Germans, and they were vehement on one side or the other. The Presbyterian Scotch-Irish of the northeast, members of Deep Run congregation, were for fight with Great Britain from the start. So were the Welsh, with a few marked exceptions, who, having the courage of their convictions, boldly joined the British army. Confiscation of their properties followed, as was the case with Edward Jones and William and Evan Thomas.

At the time of the Revolution the Mennonites probably composed a larger proportion of the Germans than now. The tenets of their faith, as with the Quakers, prohibited their bearing arms or engaging in the military service. This accounts for the fact that in the list of non-associators the German names are 78 to only 25 Welsh and Scottish. In fact, nearly every man of military age among the latter races belonged to the militia company. As a contrast we perceive that

among the 65 names of the associators only about 5 are German. In the following list observe the almost solid array of non-German names. The family name of Thomas was the most numerous in Hilltown at that day—all descendants of Rev. William Thomas, founder of Hilltown Baptist Church. There were also a number of families bearing the names of Lewis, Griffith, Jones and Morris.

#### HILLTOWN MILITIA COMPANY, 1775.

James Armstrong,	Abel Miller,
Elijah Brittain,	Charles Miller,
Thomas Campbell,	Cadwallader Morris,
William Campbell,	Joseph Morris,
Joseph Dean,	Thomas Morris,
William Davis,	John Monerbaugh,
Nathan Evans,	Benjamin Mathias,
Howell Griffith,	John Mathias,
William Griffith,	John Mathews,
Benjamin Griffith,	Hugh McHenry,
Evan Griffith,	Abel Owen,
Michael Gurn,	Griffith Owen,
Moses Heron,	Joseph Shaw,
Peter Heaton,	Robert Shannon,
Robert Heaton,	James Shannon,
Samuel Hazzard,	Samuel Shannon,
Edward Jones,	Jacob Snyder,
Edward Jones, Jr.,	Caleb Shotwell,
Jonathan Jones,	John Shields,
Thomas Jones,	Michael Sheip,
Nathaniel Jones,	George Sheip,
John Kelly,	Thomas Shewell,
Benjamin Kelly,	William Thomas,
William Kidd,	Jonah Thomas,
Lewis Lunn,	Asa Thomas,
William Lunn,	Amos Thomas,
Henry Lewis,	Enoch Thomas,
James Lewis,	Samuel Wallace,
Thomas Lewis,	Job Welt,
John Lewis,	Abraham Vastine,
William Miller,	Benjamin Vastine.

#### NON-ASSOCIATORS.

The following list of those not enrolled for service as soldiers shows, on the contrary, a large preponderance of German names. Rev. Casper Wack was a Reformed preacher, born in 1752 and died in 1839. He lies buried in a beautiful spot, Emanuel churchyard, Franconia, within a little vale by the brook which ripples unceasingly as it flows southward.

Jacob Appenseller,	Samuel Jones,
Nicholas Barringer,	Thomas Jones, Sr.,
Nathan Brittain,	Mathias Johnson,
Peter Bother,	Christian Kern,
John Boys,	John Kratz,
John Benner,	Jacob Kulp,
Jacob Biedler,	Henry Leicy,
Jacob Black,	Charles Leidy,
Paul Coder,	Wm. McElroy, Sr.,
Abraham Cope,	Wm. McElroy, Jr.,
Adam Cope,	Thomas Mathias,
Jacob Cope,	Isaac Morris,
John Cramer,	Benjamin Morris,
Felty Cramer,	Jacob Moyer and
Conrad Coder,	sons,
Hupert Cassell,	Samuel Moyer and
Abraham Derstine,	sons,
George Delp,	Abraham Miller and
Paul Frantz and	sons,
two sons,	Owen Owen,
Yost Fellman,	Ebenezer Owen,
Philip Fluck and	Thomas Paine,
two sons,	Joseph Reeder,
Abraham Funk,	Mordecai Rowland,
John Funk,	John Sellers,
Matthew Grier, Jr.,	Peter Sellers,
Daniel Griffith,	Leonard Sellers,
Evan Griffith,	Peter Sellers,
David Gruver,	Michael Snyder,
Daniel High,	George Seiple,
David Heaton,	Philip Shambaugh,
Jacob Hunsicker,	John Thomas,



Mathias	Ephraim Thomas,
Housekeeper,	Mannasseh Thomas,
Abr. Hendricks,	Eber Thomas,
Lawrence	Levi Thomas,
Hendricks,	Henry Wismer,
Henry Hendricks,	John Williams,
Abr. Huntsberger,	Richard Williams,
Michael Hartzell,	Abraham Wismer,
Fred. Haresman,	Rev. Casper Wack,
George Heichler,	E. M.

From, *Intelligencer*

*Doylestown Pa.*

Date, *June 3<sup>rd</sup> 1893.*

### LOCAL HISTORY.

#### The Aaron Homesteads and Family.

Moses Aaron, of Hilltown, and

Moses Aaron, of New Britain—

Samuel Aaron, the Orator,

Preacher and Teacher.

#### SAMUEL AARON.

Samuel Aaron, one of the most talented and distinguished men reared in Bucks county, was born in this humble New Britain farm house, October 18th, 1800. His father, Moses Aaron, was twice married. His second wife was Hannah, daughter of Erasmus Kelly, of Hilltown. Among the several races which settled the county and township, such a man as Aaron could hardly have sprung from any but the Celtic. His Welsh and Scottish ancestry gave him that mental sprightliness, that imagination, that fervor of emotion, that equipment of eloquence that qualified him for the effective orator.

On the maternal side he was descended from John Kelly, who was born in 1636—probably in the North of Ireland, and who came to America when he was a young man. He bought two hundred acres in Hilltown of Langhorne as early as 1720. In 1735 he bought one hundred acres more in New Britain, of the sons of William Penn, lying just below the Hilltown line. He was a Baptist, and in 1750 he gave the acre of ground upon which the upper Hilltown church was built. His death occurred in 1760. In his will mention is made of a deceased son Thomas, and of Erasmus. The latter inherited 233 acres. Among the children of this Erasmus were Benjamin and Rev. Erasmus, who was a Baptist clergyman. Erasmus Kelly died in 1780 at the age of fifty-two. It was Hannah, daughter of Erasmus Kelly, who became the second wife of Moses Aaron.

On the paternal side, Samuel Aaron was descended also from Thomas James, one of the earliest and most successful settlers of New Britain. Elizabeth James, daughter of Thomas James, married Benjamin Butler, a son of Simon Butler.

Her husband died a young man in June, 1751, leaving one daughter Ann. The latter grew up and became the wife of Thomas Morris, of Hilltown, whilst the Widow Butler became the wife of Mr. Aaron. She was therefore the grandmother of Samuel Aaron.

His father was a reputable farmer, a member of New Britain church, in good standing, but he had the misfortune to lose both his parents at an early age. His mother died when he was but three years old, and his father when he was but six. The days of his youth were not happy, and he was reared amid uncongenial surroundings and companionship. The writer has heard him say from the pulpit that whilst most people spoke regretfully of the joyous days of their youth, yet he could not say the same, for his was an unhappy childhood. The stamp of genius was however, impressed upon him and no untoward surroundings could suppress its manifestations. He had inherited, alone among his family, a true grained intellect and temperament, and in the rude country where school learning standing near New Britain church, he quickly surpassed the most forward of his mates in learning. In his father's will, registered December 26th, 1800, mention is made of ten children, of whom one is known to be from the first wife. This was Elizabeth, then wife of James Pool. She afterwards married Benjamin James, known as "Soldier Ben." from his service of five years in the United States army. The others were Catherine, Margaret, Moses, Erasmus, Obed, Mary, Samuel, Benjamin and Ann.

The outlines of the life of Samuel Aaron may be briefly told. In 1817 he entered Doylestown Academy as the pupil of Uriah DuBois, and in 1820 the school of Samuel Gummere, at Burlington, as both pupil and teacher. In 1821 he returned to Doylestown as a teacher in the Academy, but returned to Burlington the next year in the same capacity. In 1821 he married Emily DuBois, daughter of his preceptor. He did not profess religion till 1823, when he joined the Baptist church at Burlington, and soon afterwards entered the ministry. He became pastor of the church of New Britain in September, 1828, and remained as such till June, 1829. In 1833 he was married a second time, to Eliza, daughter of Samuel Currie, a farmer of New Britain, and continued teaching at Burlington. In 1841 he became pastor of the Baptist church at Norristown and became a citizen of that place for the next eighteen years, where he kept the Tremont Seminary. Those were busy years as teacher, preacher, anti-slavery abolitionist and temperance orator, besides conducting a newspaper called *Truth*. Becoming bankrupt as a result of the war of 1857, he removed to Mount Holly, where he taught and preached until his death in 1865.

Aaron was a born orator, a powerful teacher. His fame as a speaker and preacher mostly remain as a tradition, as very few of his sermons and orations have been put in print. In cold eye and cold we have, do not by any means realize the powerful intellectual power that he had upon his hearers. This is a real evince that originality and deep mind of the first order. He was especially great as a writer. His power was on the platform. His power



his fervor, the eloquence of his tones, the inspiration of his courage, the personal magnetism of the speaker. These, the tale of wrongs, the sight of injustices and oppression, roused the most fiery indignation of an honest and sincere nature. His fluency of speech, touched here with pathos and there with beauty, gave expression to his feelings and his courage made him fearless of consequences. His veneration for authority or precedent was not great, and he was a natural reformer and progressive. He waived aside all compromises, all conventionalities, all the cautious restraints of policy when they stood as barriers to justice and humanity. Like Wendell Phillips he believed in free lips and free speech. The two burning questions of his age and his time were temperance and slavery. In early life he was a Democrat, as was his family, but he soon threw party politics aside. Even in childhood he had seen too much of the evil of intemperance in his own family, and with the rise of the anti-slavery agitation he entered heart and soul into all efforts for the overthrow of human bondage. In many pulpits and upon multitudinous platforms his eloquent voice was heard in denunciation of these great evils: the one affecting the moral and social life of the American people, and the other at that time covered half the Republic with its deadly pall and cast its grim shadow upon the other half as well. Like many other reformers he struck hard blows and perhaps said unwise and extravagant things, but at that time the country needed just such agitators whose very violence could only arouse and stimulate a deadened public conscience.

The writer has heard those who were the contemporaries of Aaron speak in the most laudatory terms of his oratory and of his merits as a public speaker ranking him among the highest. Critically speaking, we should judge that this was far too high an estimate, and that he could be placed only among speakers of the second rank. His reputation was not national or wide. He had no national fame. His celebrity was largely local and confined to a few counties of Eastern Pennsylvania and New Jersey. He lacked the matchless power of statement of Phillips, the pathos, the humor, the philosophical

depth of Beecher. Possibly, had he entered fully upon a career as a lecturer in many cities and others of his time, his fame would have been greater, but lecturers of his way of thinking were not in demand at that time. He was, however, well known, and had personal acquaintance with the prominent anti-slavery men of other States, such as Gerritt Smith, William Lloyd Garrison, Oliver Johnson, John G. Whittier, Wendell Phillips, Joshua R. Giddings and Salmon P. Chase. In 1852 he was the Free Soil candidate for Congress from this district. It was an impossible candidacy at that time, but had he reached Congress that body would have heard and listened to him.

In personal appearance Samuel Aaron was of middle height, with fair complexion, blue eyes and light, sandy hair. The brain was large and the high, full forehead, square at the temples, betokened the ample equipment of the intellectual and imaginative faculties. His personal appearance was impressive, and the very noise of his head and his carriage, as he

walked down a church aisle indicated an extraordinary man—the impression that the spirit and the mentality make upon our bodily movements.

None of his brothers and sisters evinced more than ordinary ability, and some were really below par. He had his own deficiencies, his limitations and infirmities. His education, whilst that of the better academics of his day, and including the classical languages and higher mathematics, was not that of the broad and generous culture of the great universities of our own time. His utmost travels only extended over three or four States, as far as Ohio, Canada and New York. His judgment on ordinary business or financial questions was far inferior to those of moral or national questions. More moderation of speech, more conciliation towards the enemy, more policy, less harshness of personal censure, would probably have benefited the great causes he sought to advance, and aroused less opposition. His main occupation in life was that of a teacher. He taught long and well, thousands of pupils, but his mode of discipline was not the mildest, and wiser and more humane system of the best educators of to-day, but that of the old time schoolmasters of the past.

As a preacher, whilst he held to the old theology, and his sermons were Calvinistic in tone, yet his natural predilections were towards the ethical side of Christianity. Conduct rather than belief claimed his foremost attention. His mind was broad enough to grasp great National questions and he fully believed that a nation could not prosper whilst its people upheld iniquity. He was therefore a political preacher, and never scrupled to discuss the moral side of public questions in the pulpit when the theme seemed appropriate. On all such questions, he was in advance of his own native neighborhood, and in fact of the average thought of his own generation.

The end of his stormy life of struggle, of controversy, of peril and of conflict, came on a beautiful spring morning, the 11th of April, 1855. He had loved his country and strove for the rights of the lowliest of its people. The dying man was told of the fall of Richmond and the triumph of the Union army, bringing freedom to all within a re-united land. Involuntarily the ready expression of the patriot and the Christian sprang to his lips, "Thank God! I rejoice in the salvation of my country," and soon all was peace. E. M.

From, *Intelligencer*  
*Doylestown, Pa.*  
Date, *June 27/1893*

#### LOCAL HISTORY.

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Moses Aaron, of Hilltown, and  
Moses Aaron, of New Britain—  
Samuel Aaron, the Orator,  
Preacher and Teacher.



The Aaron plantation was a half mile or more northward of New Britain village, and within the present limits of Doylestown township. It is now mostly comprised in the farms of Lafayette Hinkle and the Huland estate. The land slopes gently northwest to the borders of Pine Run, which the Hilltown road crosses by a covered bridge. The original buildings were on the premises of Lafayette Hinkle, a short distance from the highway. In the rear there is a strip of woodland bordering Pine Run. The two farms have been separated since 1801, and this whole plantation in the last century comprised two hundred acres.

#### MOSES AARON.

Moses Aaron came from Wales and was an original settler of Hilltown, where he bought over 150 acres of land in 1730. Here is a large stone house, with dormer windows, now untenanted. The premises are now partly owned by C. Boyd, and was the former Bodder place just above the New Britain line. The buildings are reached by a long lane from the township line road, and behind which a steep wooded ridge cosily protects the premises from the western blasts. Moses Aaron was a Baptist and a member of Montgomery church. He lived here till his death in 1766, though meantime he had bought the New Britain property, so as to have a farm for each of his sons, Moses and Obed. He married rather late in life, Mrs. Elizabeth Butler, widow of Benjamin Butler and daughter of Thomas James, whose husband had died near Chalfont in June 1751. The time of this marriage is supposed to have been about 1754, when he was past fifty. He had four children, who, when he made his will in 1765, are spoken of as all being minors under fourteen. He was a shoemaker as well as farmer.

#### WILL OF MOSES AARON.

This will was registered not at Doylestown, but in Philadelphia and strangely enough, not among the wills, but the administrations, so that it is likely to have escaped the notice of local historians. By this will it appears that Moses Aaron was a slaveholder, though his grandson afterwards made such a sturdy fight against the "peculiar institution." This will was made February 1st, 1765, and registered July 2d, 1766. In the records of Montgomery church his death is mentioned in the latter year. The purport of the will was as follows: His widow Elizabeth was to live in his dwelling along with his minor children, and further the testator says "To my wife my negro woman Abigail." To "Moses, my eldest son, that messuage plantation lying in New Britain, in that part called Society, containing two hundred acres." Of this he was not to become possessed till reaching twenty-one, which was not till 1776. Also "to Moses one good wagon and one negro man named James." To his eldest daughter Rachel £150, and the same amount to his other daughter, Hannah. To "my youngest son Obed, the plantation in Hilltown, where I now live." Joseph Griffith and Morris Morris, both of

New Britain, were made guardians of his wife and children, and Thomas Thomas, of Hilltown, was the executor of the will. The witnesses were Henry Lewis, John Farrell and William Davis.

The Hilltown homestead remained in possession of the Aaron family for three generations. Obed Aaron, the son of Moses, born in 1760, held it till his death in April, 1837. His son, Derostus, succeeded him. The latter sold 135 acres in 1842 to Charles Rowland. Derostus Aaron died November 30th 1859, in his 54th year, from a nervous fever. The property has since passed through several hands. It is said of Rowland, that being a strong Whig he bet so much money on the election of Henry Clay in 1844, and losing, was forced to sell the property, which he did to Daniel Johns.

Elizabeth Aaron, the widow of Moses, and who was much younger, survived her husband for fifteen years, or till the summer of 1781. She had been born in 1725. Her will was registered September of that year. She had held possession of a negro slave, here called Dinah. The latter was willed to her daughter Rachel, who had married John Kelly. The other daughter, Hannah, had married Jonathan Jones, and to whom she gave a small legacy. The son Obed, with whom she lived, got the remainder of her personal estate. Mention is made of a daughter Ann, by her first husband, Benjamin Butler, who had married Thomas Morris.

The wife of Obed Aaron was Sarah, daughter of Owen Owen, of Hilltown. She died in 1817. Their children were Mary, Elizabeth, Catharine, Harriet, Ury, Sabra, John and Derostus. Of these, Mary married Jesse Jenkins, of Hatfield. Her daughter Margaret is the wife of Martin Evans, a well-known citizen of Doylestown. Derostus married Caroline, daughter of Jacob Bodder. His children were Horatio, Samuel, Annabella, Amelia, Irwin, John and Hughes. Of these, John is a citizen of Lansdale, and Samuel died in Hilltown, the winter of 1893. His son Lemuel is a resident of Philadelphia. Mary, daughter of Obed Aaron, married Robert Heaton and left children, Edmund, Eliza and Barilla. Irwin Aaron is the well-known auctioneer, now living in Yardley.

#### THE NEW BRITAIN HOMESTEAD.

The New Britain plantation to which this sketch more particularly relates, was early acquired by Moses Aaron, though he was not a resident on it. The land had remained in forest till the middle of the last century, a portion then probably being swampy. It was bought by William Moss from Lawrence Growden and Langhorne Biles, executors of Jeremiah Langhorne, in 1748, when 112 acres were conveyed for £134. Moss was a Welshman, and his name was a contraction from "Moses." The boundaries were: "Beginning at corner of land that Samuel Martin lives upon; thence by same southwest 100 perches; then by Aaron James and Thomas James northwest 179 perches; then by William James and John Thomas northeast 100 perches; then by Thomas John and Evan Stephens southeast 179 perches to beginning." Samuel Martin held the Godshalk mill property, the present farms of John Jacoby and Joseph S. Angeny as a tenant, and not as an owner. Aaron James held the present Keely property, but was not the owner. In the following



year (1749) Moss sold the 112 acres to Thomas James in two pieces, the smaller being of 20 acres, and in 1750 Thomas James sold to Moses Aaron 187 acres. This must have included 75 acres besides the 112, of which we do not have the previous record. Moss died in Warwick in December, 1753. There is a possibility that he had lived here as a tenant before 1750. There is a tradition, which cannot be verified, that he was in some manner dispossessed of the part later held by Thomas James in a manner not satisfactory. His wife, who was a scold, was fiercely indignant, and in her wrath formally pronounced a "curse" upon the property. In later times the older and more superstitious neighbors, when they saw evidences of bad farming or mismanagement on the part of succeeding owners, were wont to say, "See Poll Moss' curse yet rests upon the doomed premises."

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E. M.

[To be continued.]

From, *Democrat*

*Doylestown Pa.*

Date, *June 29<sup>th</sup> 1893.*

#### LIVESEY HALL.

#### OLD MANOR HOUSE IN ENGLAND.

With Some Account of the Family in that Country and This.

THE Livezey family, sometimes spelled Livesey, is one of the oldest in the county. Jonathan, the first comer, settled in Solebury township soon after Penn's second visit, December, 1699. Here he took up a tract of land that included the old Stephen Townsend farm, on which he built a one-story stone house in 1732, and the Armitage, Paxson and William Kitchen farms. The old Livezey homestead was torn down in 1848. He married Esther Eastburn and had children—Jonathan, Nathan, Benjamin and Joseph. Robert Livezey, the father of that branch of the family passing off the stage of life, was the great, great grandson of Jonathan.

The branch of the family living in this county is remarkable for attaining great age. Robert Livesey, who was born in 1780 and died in 1864 at the age of 84, was the father of eight children, all of whom



were living down to 1863, when Samuel died. Previous to his death, not only were the eight children living, the youngest being 49, but both parents in their 84th year.

The family belongs to the parish of Blackburn, in Lancashire, England, where they lived many generations. In the reign of Queen Elizabeth and her successors, the Stuarts, they were rated among the less wealthy of the lords of manors and freeholding gentry in the northeast of that county. The old Hall of Livesey, the seat of the family, which took its name from the township of Livesey, is standing, somewhat dilapidated by lime, a little way off the old road from Blackburn to Preston, in the valley of the River Darwen, about two miles below Blackburn.

Within a circuit of ten or twelve miles are a number of old manor and jointure-houses that in plan and style of building resemble more or less closely Livesey Hall. Their restoration took place from 1560 to 1660. Robert Livezey, Esq., who came into possession of the ancestral home in 1590, on the death of his grandfather, Richard Livesey, commenced the work of restoration. He directed the rebuilding of the central block of the house some time previous to 1608, when it was finished. At this time the Livezey manor-estate consisted of over 500 Lancashire acres of land, equal to about 1,000 statute acres. He died in April, 1619 and, having no issue, by a settlement in 1617 he constituted his nephew, Ralph Livesey, son of his brother John, his heir. He came of age in 1631, when he obtained possession of the estate. He rebuilt the east wing of the Hall in 1666.

This owner of the estate had a surviving son, Ralph, born in 1657, and, upon his marriage, the manor of Livesey was conveyed to his use, the deed of settlement bearing date November 21, 1632. He obtained possession in his life time, and added a new west-wing in 1689. He was succeeded by his son William Livesey, and William's son, Ralph, was the last male representative of his family. He died in 1766, but had leased Livezey Hall in 1749, and since that time the manor house has not been the residence of the proprietor of the estate.

The view of Livesey Hall, as it appears in a drawing made by Herbert Railton, and published in the May number of the *Art Journal*, 1886, is that of a long structure, broken up picturesquely by three gabled projections, which are those of the wings and of the storied erection in the midst over the porch. The material of the outer walls is grey-stone. The building is much dilapidated, and much of it has not been habited for many years. The windows are apertures without glass, the roofs are sinking, the coping-stones are gradually being detached and some of the chimney stacks have been blown down. These are the oldest and most interesting portions of the manor house. The portions of the earliest date are the porch and the recessed section between the porch and east wing. The armorial bearings of the Liveseys are found on a carved stone in the wall above the main entrance—(argent, a lion rampant gules, between three trefoils tipped, vest). On the right of the porch is a waingmullioned window range, and, above it is a small stone panel bearing an inscription which fixes the date of erection of this part, and furnishes

the initials of the names of the builder and his wife (James Livesey and Alice Livesey) preceded by a motto. The windows of the upper story are mullioned, square-headed, with moulded drip-stones. The east wing has three stories, and the eastern frontage is relieved by a massive chimney projection and a dormer on the roof line. Above the first floor window in the end of this wing is another moulded stone panel with a motto over the initials of the owner's name by whom it was rebuilt and those of his wife (Ralph and Anne Livesey) and the year of the restoration.

Another portion of the same eastern front was erected in 1666, including the projecting chimney. The architecture of this frontage is more quaint and distinctive than that of the remainder of the Hall. The west wing was built for the younger Ralph Livesey, in 1689, and on the lintel of the doorway are the letters

L  
R A  
P

The initials of the names of Ralph Livesey, Ann, his wife, and Porter Livesey, their son. Below are the figures 1689, denoting the year of building. Windows in this wing vary in size and in position from those in the older structures of the building at various periods. The interior has been stripped of all decorative appendages, but the remains are sufficient to indicate what they once were. The spacious dining room is on the right of the main entrance, lighted by the wide window in front, and the remains of the great open fire place are on the opposite side. Behind was the parlor in front of the east-wing, and was handsomely wainscoted with carved and moulded oak panels. Behind the parlor was the principal staircase, approached from the hall through a wide passage, with its spindled balustrades, with seven short stages or flights, which conducted to the bedrooms on the floor above. The interior partition walls below and above are strong framework; the wainscoting has been torn away from the chambers above. Some of the old trees planted to shelter the manor-house, are still standing. Livesey Hall, in spite of its dilapidation, is an exceedingly interesting relic of the past, and a reminder of the manner of living of many of the old English families that settled Bucks county in the latter part of the seventeenth century. This old manor-house is one of the best samples of its kind in its day, and generation in Lancashire.

From, *Democrat*

Daghestown Pa.

Date, June 30, 1893

#### THE LIVEZEY FAMILY.

An Error in History Corrected.

Editor "Daily Democrat":—I wish to correct an error in the account of the



first settlers of the Livezey family, which appeared in the DAILY DEMOCRAT of June 24. In the first place none of the Livezey emigrants settled in Solebury or Bucks county. Jonathan Livezey settled at the Fox Chase, in Philadelphia county, and from them we trace our genealogy.

Abraham Paxon, my grandfather, purchased the old Townsend farm in 1813, and my father, Robert Livezey, moved thereon the following year. The addition to the old "Homestead" spoken of was built by Stephen Townsend in 1756.

Now, we read in Sewell's History that William Penn in 1681 "went to America with much company," and it was said that Jonathan Livezey and two of his brothers came over with that company, and these three brothers settled in Philadelphia county, as stated above, and Jonathan at the Fox Chase, in said county. He died September 23, 1693. He left a son Jonathan, who was born March 15, 1692. He married Esther Eastburn, daughter of Robert Eastburn, who lived near Frankford, in 1717, by whom he had several children. Among them one was named Jonathan, born in 1719. He, the said Jonathan, married Catharine Thomas in 1747, and also left several children, one of them named Daniel, born in 1752. Said Daniel married Margery Croasdale in 1778.

My father was Daniel's son, born at the Fox Chase, February 22, 1780. Thus we trace our genealogy. The balance of the account which appeared in the DEMOCRAT was written from the History of the Livezeys, published in the *English Art Journal*, and may be correct.

ALLEN LIVEZEY.

Yardley, Pa., June 27, 1893.

From,

*Intelligencer*  
*Doylestown Pa.*

Date,

*July 14" 1893.*

### LOCAL HISTORY.

The Mason Plantation--Aaron James  
the First Settler--David Evans.

The Keeley Farm--New  
Britain.

This fine property partly surrounds New Britain village and church, and is divided by the Doylestown road into two nearly equal portions. The land slopes gently towards the southeast to the valley of Cook's Run, which stream ripples through the woodland on its borders on its way to the Neshaminy, which it is soon to join. The line of the North Penn railroad was cut through this forest from Godshalk's mill to New Britain station, following the course of the brook. The buildings are on the eastern side of the highway, the dwelling being handsome and substantial, though built more than

half a century ago. An older stone house, the former dwelling, stands in the rear, over a spring that drew the first settler here. The Almshouse road forms a portion of the southwest boundary of the property. This farm has been for many years in possession of the Keeley family, and is the residence of Ellwood R. Mathews, justice of the peace, and son-in-law of Mrs. Keeley.

The original plantation was much larger, comprising land on which is now the Baptist parsonage, Conard's blacksmith shop, the store of William Mathews and several dwellings of the village. A portion of the Baptist graveyard was sold from it in 1846; the site for the railroad station in 1855, and at other times the present properties of Benjamin Schuyler and Dr. Kratz on the southeast, the former's boundary extending to the Mill road. The strip between the Mill road and the State road, now mostly belonging to George Hoffman, was for a long period called "land in dispute" between the old Shewell and Mason estates.

This was part of the "Society lands," which was acquired by Jeremiah Langhorne. There are several curious things about its early history. One is that it remained unsold from the Langhorne estate until a later period than any other farms in this vicinity, or till thirty or forty years after the surrounding lands had passed into the hands of those who themselves made the first improvements. The reason for this remains a mystery. It must not be supposed that there was no habitation here during all this period, or that the land remained wholly in forest. On the contrary, a dwelling was built probably as early as 1730. Some of the deeds of surrounding properties given between 1730 and 1760 mention this land as owned by Aaron James, and others say it was land merely "occupied by Aaron James." At any rate the latter was the first settler, and he lived here for many years. Whether he was dispossessed from a flaw in his title is unknown. He was a Welsh Baptist, and an entry in Montgomery church book mentions that his wife Mary was received into that church, April 19, 1730. In 1754, on the 28th of November, she was dismissed to New Britain church along with her son Thomas, showing that then they resided in that vicinity. What became of the family later is unknown. They were not related to the other numerous James family of the township, and the later members of it had never heard of Aaron James, even by tradition.

Jonathan Mason, who came from Lower Dublin hither, was the first owner of the property who received title from the Langhorne estate, unless we may suppose that James had received such title, which he was unable to hold from lack of money. In 1759 Mason had bought 19½ acres of David Stephens, lying along Cook's Run near its junction with the Neshaminy, and on which he built a fulling mill, which stood till 1830. This is now the Landis property. In 1764 Mason bought the larger property under consideration.

DEED TO JONATHAN MASON, 1764.

This deed given in 1764 by Lawrence Growden and Langhorne Biles, conveyed 103 acres bounded as follows: Beginning at corner of William Moses; thence southwest 101 perches; thence southeast 35



perches to corner of meeting house lot; thence by same northeast 16 perches to a black oak; southeast by same, 20 perches; southwest by same 16 perches; thence southeast by David Stephen's, Jonathan Mason and David Morgan, 129 perches to corner in land lately in dispute between Robert Shewell and Langhorne Biles and Lawrence Growden; thence along said disputed land northeast 80 perches; thence by Samuel Martin northwest 73 perches; thence northeast by same 22 perches; thence by William Moses northwest 110 perches to beginning. That same year on November 22, Mason gave a mortgage on the property, in which it is styled a "message plantation" or one with a house on it, indicating that some one had built and made improvements before he came there. The above boundary also shows internal evidence of being merely a copy of an older conveyance to some one.

The ownership of Jonathan Mason lasted nearly thirty years during the Revolutionary period. Three of the name of Mason took the oath of allegiance, Jonathan Mason, Paul Mason and Jonathan Mason, Jr. In the assessment of 1779 we find the names of Jonathan Mason as owning eighty-six acres, and of John Mason as married and Samuel Mason single, both are presumed sons of the first named. The name of John Mason does not appear in the assessment of 1785 and he may have removed elsewhere. Jonathan Mason had been born in 1716, we believe in this country, and his life went to the age of seventy-seven. His death occurred April 6th, 1793, and he was buried in the adjoining church yard of New Britain, of which church he was a member.

#### WILL OF JONATHAN MASON.

This was made in 1790 and registered on the 16th of May, 1793. In this document children Samuel, John, Rachel, Lucretia, Mary, Jemima and Christiana are mentioned, though there was also a son Andrew. His son Samuel got the New Britain homestead and also the fulling mill on Cook's Run; also, "two hundred acres which I bought of James Montgomery in Westmoreland county"—a speculative venture probably. His son John got \$350, Lucretia, wife of Alexander McIntosh, Mary, wife of Benjamin Morris, and Jemima, wife of Isaac James, \$80 each. His single daughter Christiana got \$106 and Rachel \$126. The latter afterwards became the second wife of Benjamin Mathews, Esq., Mary, a daughter of his son John, also received a legacy.

#### SAMUEL MASON.

Samuel Mason the next owner, was born in 1743, and carried on farming and his business as a fuller of cloth. At the little mill on the brook by the meadow side, were employed fullers, skilled in their trade. Among these were Isaac Benner, to whom Mason sold a lot at New Britain cross roads, where Benner built a house on the northern corner in 1823. Samuel Mason was a single man all his days, which were many, extending to his eighty-fourth year. His death took place September 10th, 1827. He was a soldier in the Revolution, and was in active service November 1st, 1777, under Captain Henry Darrah. Andrew Mason, his brother, appears to have taken the property, but his death occurred soon

after. His children, to divide the property instituted an amicable sale, and in 1829, Stephen Brock sold for these heirs 111 acres to Michael Snyder, afterwards landlord at Line Lexington. In this transaction we have mention of these children of Andrew Mason, viz: Sarah, wife of Nathan Riale; Mary, wife of Obed Aaron; Margaret, wife of John Potts; Eliza, wife of Isaac Oakford; Rachael, wife of Charles Lockman, and Jane, wife of John Mathias. Of these both Eliza and Rachael died near Princeton, Illinois, where they left descendants. None are now living but Jane Mathias.

In 1835 Snyder sold the farm to Andrew Swartz, who, the next year, transferred to John Evans, of Montgomery township. In 1839 John Evans sold to his brother, David Evans, then a carpenter living in Philadelphia. Both these, along with their brother, Joseph, had received fortunes from the estate of their brother, Robert Evans, a merchant tailor who had acquired a competence in New Orleans, where he died of yellow fever in 1835.

#### DAVID EVANS.

These brothers, four in number, were sons of Nathan Evans, who had married Mary, daughter of Thomas Mathews. David was born September 10, 1794, and learned the trade of carpenter. His first wife was Elizabeth Lunn, of Hilltown, by whom he had children, Robert and Mary. The former is still living in New Jersey, and the latter married Prof. Charles James, of Lewisburg and other colleges. She died recently in West Chester. Two of her sons, Sexton and Charles, are now Baptist clergymen. The second wife of David Evans was Mary, daughter of John Rowland, of Hilltown. She was a lady of unusual gifts in a social and conversational way, charming in her manner even to advanced age. Her daughters were of similar gifts and their presence graced the village choir forty years ago. One of the younger is now the wife of Rev. William Garner, of Berwyn, Chester county, a well-known Baptist minister.

David Evans was one of the most public spirited men that ever lived at New Britain. He was foremost in every good work of improvement, both secular and religious, and the public school system found in him an ardent advocate at a period when in that community it needed defenders. In 1841, he built a house, which at that time, was considered one of the best in the county, and this was the hospitable home for many years of every visiting Baptist clergyman. Towards the close of his life, his fortune becoming considerably impaired, he secured employment as inspector on the Delaware canal, which then belonged to the State, and the offices connected with the management were the gift of the dominant political party. Whilst employed in the duties of his office he was stricken with the hand of death in the form of apoplexy and died May 16, 1856, at the age of sixty-two. His widow sold the property in 1857 to Richard Hamilton and removed to Lewisburg, where she died in 1888, at the age of 78. Her sons Edwin and Charles were soldiers in the Civil war, the latter being a captain. The former afterwards became a lawyer, and practiced at Sunbury, where he died in 1873, and his brother Charles died previously.



Richard Hamilton, the next owner, was a native of the north of Ireland. He kept possession till the close of the Civil war, when he removed to Doylestown, where he died. He sold in 1865 to Isaac Keeley, formerly of Berks county, whose widow, Mrs. Rebecca Keeley, is yet owner of the property.

#### THE GARIS LOT.

The Garis lot was originally a piece of twelve acres detached from the east side of the Mason farm in 1835. It adjoined the mill road, and a dwelling was erected near the former Thornton woodland, Solomon Garis, of Plumstead, bought of Michael Snyder, Garis remained here till old age, or for over thirty years, when being a widower and childless, he removed elsewhere. He sold in 1866 to Albert G. Hendricks. Later transfers were: 1870, Hendricks to David Craft his brother-in-law; 1873, Craft to George Gale; 1874, Gale to Isaac Conrad; 1884, Conrad sold twenty-one acres to Benjamin Schuyler, late director of the poor. A portion of the land was a sandy knoll, and the sand being excellent for building purposes, large quantities have been since quarried and shipped by Mr. Schuyler.

A portion of this property, adjoining the Almshouse road and Cock's Run, has been separated, and is now the home of Dr. Kratz, whose dwelling is pleasantly situated in a copse of woodland. When this circular piece of timber was owned by David Evans it was the scene of the first Sunday school picnics held in Bucks county. These were begun in 1846, under the inception of Rev. Heman Lincoln, then pastor of the church, who being a Bostonian had some fresh and innovating ideas, with which he started the conservatives of the church and neighborhood. During the ownership of Hendricks, who built the house for a summer boarding house, it was a lively place at that season, as he had many guests.

#### THE BENNER LOT.

The fifth house erected at New Britain cross roads was that built and occupied by Isaac Benner at the north corner. This is supposed to have been erected in 1812. At any rate, at that date, Benner bought one acre from his employer, Samuel Mason, for \$133—a sum too small to indicate an existing dwelling. The death of Benner took place in 1832. He was then quite an aged man, having been born in 1744—probably a German. He is remembered for his cat, which animal lived to be nineteen years old, and faithfully followed its master to and fro from his work, half a mile away, with the fidelity of a dog.

After the death of Benner his house appears for a time to have come into possession of Samuel Hogeland, and was seized by Sheriff William Field in 1836 and sold to John Evans, the lot thus being reunited to the farm. In 1839 David Evans bought this along with the farm of his brother John. For several years prior to 1844 and down to 1856, with some exceptions, it was rented to the Hendricks family. Charles Hendricks carried on blacksmithing and was sexton of the church. During the campaign of 1844 the Democrats erected a hickory

pole at this corner, and from the second-story porch of this house Thomas Ross and other speakers addressed the advocates of the election of James K. Polk. In 1848 Albert G. Hendricks bought it, built a blacksmith shop and a new house. At that time he was widely known as a music teacher. The later transfers of the lot have been: 1856, Hendricks to Charles Lachner; 1858, Lachner to Joseph Shewell; 1868, Shewell to Thomas Good; 1872, Good to Josiah Meredith. The latter died in the fall of that year, but his widow, Mrs. Sarah Ann Meredith, has resided there ever since.

The store was erected in 1866 by Joseph P. Mathews and sons, and has now for many years been kept by William Mathews. The parsonage lot was detached from the Evans place in 1852, and was first occupied by Rev. William Wilder, who was pastor of the church from 1850 to 1854. He came from Western New York and afterwards removed to Minnesota.

E. M.

From, *Intelligencer*  
*Doylestown Pa.*  
Date, *July 17<sup>th</sup> 1893.*

#### SOME BUCKS COUNTY FAMILY NAMES.

Read Before the Bucks County Historical Society at Doylestown, January 17, 1893, by Charles F. Jenkins, of Philadelphia.

When asked by the President of your society to prepare a paper to be read on this occasion I had in mind a sketch of Thomas Canby, one of the early Bucks county settlers, a man of standing and ability, and in a genealogical way, one of the most interesting of subjects. However, it occurred to me that it might be more interesting, instead, to trace in a general way the origin and derivation of some of your Bucks county family names. Such a work is clearly within the scope of the Historical Society. As the name of a town or place refers to the period of its foundation and the customs and traits and even the history of those who named it, so family names show us in their origin, the times, customs, surroundings, the occupations and characteristics of our ancestors. We learn of invasions and conquests or of peaceful immigrations in names foreign to their surroundings; we can trace pestilence, wars and death in names forgotten and extinct. In changes in the spelling and form we can note the growth of learning and the advancement in the social position and power of man and in the variation of name systems in different countries can be noted, their compara-



standards of civilization. We see the nomenclature of one county pre-eminence of ecclesiastical influences, in another, the war-like instincts of its citizens, in a third the pastoral or maritime character of the population, while the name used in a fourth may show us that its people are given over to superstition and idolatry. Names go hand in hand with history, furnishing by their well nigh imperishable nature, true and interesting records of the past.

It will be necessary to-night to treat the subject in a somewhat broad and general way; tracing, however, the sources and derivations of names with special application to family names as found in Bucks county.

There are said to be in England over 40,000 different surnames. In this country with its accessions from all the races of the Old World, with their different languages and name systems, the number must be far greater. With the rather limited lists of Bucks county names at my command—the suburban section of the Blue Book, Dun's Commercial Reports and the subscription lists of an agricultural paper—I had no difficulty in making a collection of over 2000 English and Anglicised German surnames. It will be possible to use but a small proportion of these.

If we draw a line through Bucks county, near the middle, from the Montgomery border to the river, a division is made that broadly marks the two dominant classes of surnames in the county, the German in the upper end and the English in the lower. While surnames have been formed in Germany in much the same manner as in Great Britain, it would be impossible for one not familiar with that language to give the meaning of the different German names, so that the majority of those I have used are of English origin.

Names as applied to persons, it is hardly necessary to say, are of two classes, the Christian name, which is given at birth, and the surname or family which with us is hereditary. All of us have two names, most of us have three, some, like your honored president, have four, and a few have five or even more. Originally when communities were isolated and small a single name was all that was needed to designate the individual. It was only when population increased, when commerce spread and intercommunication became less difficult and more frequent that further particularity, than the merely personal name, became a necessity. As a matter of fact it was in the eleventh and twelfth centuries that there was, throughout civilized Europe, what almost seems like a preconcerted movement to place nomenclature on a more solid basis. In England it was not until after the Norman Conquest, that all-dating event in English history, that surnames were used, and it was still some time ere they became hereditary. The Normans themselves who introduced the system and who regarded it as a mark of distinction had not long before adopted the custom from the French. It was still many years ere the conquered Saxon Thane and his still more unpliant churl or the implacable Celt in his mountain fastness would have aught to do with the system.

All names as originally given were significant. They related to some circumstance connected with the birth of

the individual or described in some way his physical or mental characteristics. We see this in the writings of Moses and the books of the Old Testament. Moses himself was so called from the fact he was "drawn from the water" this being the interpretation of his name. Esau, or "the hairy one," described his personal appearance. Rachel on her death bed called her new born son, Benoni, meaning "son of my sorrow," but his father named him Benjamin, "son of my right hand." We see the Celtic father calling his son Rhys from his reddish complexion and the seventh child of the Roman parent called Septimus.

So it was when surnames began to be taken they, too, were significant. The name might be the designation of the property owned or the name of the town in which the individual lived or some local peculiarity that marked his home. It might be the designation of his occupation or of some title or rank of office. It might be a patronymic, a name taken from the personal name of his father or mother, or again it might be descriptive of some physical or mental characteristic, perhaps complimentary and possibly the reverse. Whatever it was, it became part and parcel of a man's property, given to his descendants and by them passed on to other generations. In a generation or two these names would lose the significance for which they were first taken or given. John Carpenter's descendants might be tailors or merchants or following any other occupation. Camden, one of the great authorities on English nomenclature, who lived near the time when surnames first became hereditary, quaintly says, "for now neither the good names do grace the bad, neither do evil names disgrace the good." This is within our observation to-day. We see proud and honorable names dragged in the dust and some common name of lowly origin gracing the good and wise. Horace Smith has expressed this contrary nature of surnames, as we find them to-day, in the following lines:

"Mr. Oldcastle dwells in a modern built hut,

Miss Sage is of Mad-caps the archest,  
Of all the queer bachelors Cupid e'er cut  
Old Mr. Younghusband's the starchest.

Mr. Swift hobbles onward, no mortal knows how,

He moves as though cords had entwined him,

Mr. Metcalfe ran off upon meeting a cow,  
With pale Mr. Turnbull behind him!

Mr. Barker's as mute as a fish in the sea,

Mr. Miles never moves on a journey,  
Mr. Gotobed sits up till half after three,  
Mr. Makepeace was bred an attorney.

Mr. Gardener can't tell a flower from a root,

Mr. Wild with timidity draws back,  
Mr. Rider performs all his journeys on foot

And Mr. Foote all his journeys on horseback!"

Although it is hard when a name is mentioned not to immediately bring up in our minds its owner and his connection to ourselves, be it that of relationship, friendship or mere acquaintance-ship, let us now consider impersonally, as far as possible, and as members of a class, some representative Bucks county family names.



The great source from which surnames have been derived are the towns, the hamlets, or the homes of our early ancestors. It was natural that a man should be known by the name of his estate or holding or that he should be described as of such and such a place. Some may have thought that it has been their family name which has given the appellation to some locality, but in England, the reverse is the case. Place names existed long before surnames and some of the former are to-day the sole remains of obsolete and forgotten dialects. Many *place* names, however, were originally taken from *personal* names. As English local nomenclature was in turn influenced by the Briton, the Roman, the Saxon, the Dane and the Welsh, so England's place names present a great variety of form and termination. From the "by" endings of Danby, Grimsby and many others in Eastern England, we see the Scandivianian influence. To the Saxons we owe the many "wicks," "steads," "tuns," and "hams" and of later origin "ley," "ford," "bury" and "boro." Bucks county township names of Buckingham, Solebury, Warwick, Plumstead and Warrington give us nearby examples.

There is an old saying for which, however, there is but little foundation that

"In ford, in ham, in ley and ton,  
The most of English surnames run."

In Bucks county we find with the "ton" termination and corresponding to localities of the same name in England: Worthington, a very old county name and quite a common one still; Pembrton, the name of the first clerk of the Bucks county courts; Darlington, Hampton, Preston, Appleton, Walton, Woolvertou, Clayton, Woolston, Thornton, Linton, Fenton and Stockton. Pennington, too, one of the earliest names in the county, is one of very ancient origin.

With names ending in *le-y*, which comes from the word meaning a meadow or pasture, we have Yardley, a well-known name, of which there are at least three parishes in England; Walmsley, which name first came to Pennsylvania and Bucks county with William Penn in the "Welcome;" Livezey, Barkley and Hurley.

Names ending in "ford" and "ham" are not so common, Gillingham, however, being an example. There are three parishes of this name in as many different English counties.

Other names from local sources are: Banes, from a village in Normandy; Worrell, from parishes in two counties; Seal, a parish in Kent; Cary, Ingham, Holcomb, Iden, Ramsey, Kinsey, Twinning, Buzby, Sherwood, Fulmer, Scarborough, Wharton, Penrose, Thorp, Ridge and Reading. Tregoz, from which Trego is, no doubt, derived, was a local name and common in Sussex. Lear is said to be from Lire in Normandy. Kirkbridge is a parish in Cumberland, and it was from his home in this English county that Joseph Kirkbridge ran away to make an honored name in Pennsylvania. Comparatively few local surnames are derived from the names of countries. I found but four—German, Welsh, Scott and English.

Another class of local names are those which described more minutely the immediate home and its surroundings. Ash is a name of this kind as first applied to a man living near an Ash tree.

Townsend is a good example, meaning a man living at the towns' end. Hallowell would be applied to one living near a holy well—in the middle ages a common title given to many springs.

Penn is a good Celtic word meaning the top of a hill or source of a stream. I was not able to find this name in Bucks county.

Cope and Knowles also mean the top or summit of a mound or hill and Hill itself is a surname, as is also Hillborn. Applied to dwellers on lower ground. We find Lea and Moore or as it is called in England Moore, Marsh, Heath, Dale, Vail and Fell, a stretch of bare elevated land.

The Bucks county Fells are descended from ancestors who took their names from Furness Fells in Northern England. Ross is a heathland and also a promontory. Blackfan came originally, I think, from a Black fan, while Croasdale, Martindale and Iredell are each from some little valley of the same name.

Shaw applies to a small copse or wood and Blackshaw, an early name in Falls township, would be a dark woods. Hayhurst means an enclosed woods.

Mill, Wood, Hall, Ferry, Rivers, Brooks, Rhoades, Havens, Church, Kirk, Foot, Green, Field and Lane are all names of a local character as are also in a measure North, East, South and West.

Saxon names of this class were originally preceded by "at," "of" or "by," corresponding to the "du" and the "de la" of the Norman. In most cases these prefixes disappeared, but in Atwood and in the Norman or French names DuBois and DeCoursey they are still retained.

Let us now consider another class of surnames, a class from which we have more common names than from any other, those patronymics, or names formed from the personal name of the parent. How they arose is clearly manifest. It would be natural that the children should be known in the community in which they lived, as the sons of Thomas, Will or John, making that particular generation in which these designations became settled, Thompson, Willson and Johnson. With but few and unimportant exceptions all the surnames of the Welsh, the Irish and the Highlanders of Scotland, are formed from baptismal names. In English patronymic names the ending "son" is perhaps the most common way of forming the surname and the same formation is also found in the Swedish, Danish and German name systems. In Bucks county among many names with the "son" termination there are Johnson, Jackson, Simpson derived from Simon, Patterson from Patrick, Thompson and Tomlinson both from Thomas. Balderson from Baldwin, Watson from Wat, a diminutive form of Walter. Gilkyson from Gilbert, Richardson, Harrison, Dickson and also Atkinson one of the old and common names in the county from Atkins, which in turn may come from Arthur.



From,

Intelligencer  
Doylestown, Pa.

Date, July 18, 1893.

**SOME BUCKS COUNTY FAMILY NAMES.**

Read Before the Bucks County Historical Society at Doylestown, January 17, 1893, by Charles F. Jenkins, of Philadelphia.

Another common way of forming patronymics was to put the parent's name in the genitive case and omit the "son." Of names like this of English origin we have Stevens, Rogers, Robbins, Peters, Adams, Edwards, Matthews and Phillips also Bates a diminutive of Bartholomew, Hicks a derivation from Isaac and Clements from Clement. Then there are many surnames which were personal names and seem to have been simply appropriated and used as such without change of form,—Warner, Walter, James, Goodwin, Goodman, Henry, Ritchie, from Richard, Merrick, Baldwin, Jarrett, a corruption of Gerald, Rowland, Paschall, Arnold, George, Everett, a corruption of Everard, Osborne, Gilbert, Barrett, Titus and Fabian. You will notice that but few of these are now used as Christian names. In some instances, as might occur in the case of a widow the children were given their mother's name forming a metronymic. Betts is traced in this way to Betty and Babb from Barbara.

The Welsh surnames as stated a few moments ago, belong almost entirely to the patronymic class. The old Welsh name system was confusing in the extreme. The word "ap" meaning "son of" was used in connection with the father's name to designate the son; thus David the son of Lloyd would be David ap Lloyd and in turn his son would be Rees ap David. Carried down in this way from generation to generation it was only by feats of memory or most carefully preserved records that the descent and genealogy of a family could be preserved. Perhaps it was to this very effort, needed to preserve such a line, that is due the fact that the Welsh genealogies are so complete. The Foulkes of Bucks county, in Richland and Buckingham, tracing their descent from Edward Foulke, the emigrant, are enabled by a record preserved by him to go back through Foulke ap Thomas ap Evans on up ten more generations to Ririd Flaidd, Lord of Pennlyn, who is frequently mentioned in Welsh chronicles of the latter part of the twelfth century. Edward Foulke's wife's ancestry on her mother's side could be traced back fourteen generations. This lengthy pedigree, however, is overshadowed by the record of John Thomas, one of the early Welsh settlers in Pennsylvania. It starts out with Thomas ap Hugh and in 35 generations through a long line of

early British and Roman names it reaches Aeneas, a hero of the Trojan war. The 109th generation brings it to Japheth, then Noah, then on up following the Biblical records to Adda, Adam and in the 120th generation reaching God, the Father of all. It is hardly necessary to say that such a record is the creation of the early Welsh heralds, whose romantic imaginations have here had full play. To the 16th generation the record is authentic.

This cumbersome name system was in vogue in Wales up to a comparatively recent period. The Welsh gentry as a rule did not bear hereditary surnames until the time of Henry VIII, and within a hundred years names with seven or eight generations as an appendage were to be met with. A story is told of an unfortunate Welshman with such a name. An Englishman was riding along a dangerous mountain road when he heard far below a cry of distress proceeding apparently from a man who had tumbled over the cliff. Listening he heard the words in a voice truly Cambrian: "Help, master, help." "Help, what, hold on, who are you?" Back came the response, "John ap David ap Lloyd ap Evan ap Morgan." "Lazy fellow that you be," responded the Englishman, "to lie lolling in that hole. Why don't ye help one another out," and with that he set spurs to his horse and rode away, leaving poor John ap David, etc., etc., to his fate.

At the time of the settlement of Richland, Hilltown and New Britain, into which the Welsh had overflowed from Merion, Gwynedd and Montgomery, contact with the English led to the adoption of a stationary surname. The transition from one system to another made some changes. For instance, the four brothers, Evans of Gwynedd and the Owens of Merion, were the sons of brothers, Owen ap Evan and Evan ap Evan. The children of the former carried the Welsh system down a generation more and being ap Owens took Owens as their surname, while the others took Evans as theirs. John Humphrey's son, who was Humphrey ap John, became Humphrey John or Humphrey Jones, Jones being the genitive form of John and one of the most common of our surnames, ranking second only to Smith. Hugh ap Griffith's son became Robert Hugh, and thus the name of Hughes. Pugh is derived in the same way, being ap Hugh. Powell is ap Howell; Price, ap Rhys, and Parry, ap Harry. Davids is a common Welsh name, formed like some of the English patronymics. Davis, Davies and Davison, which are all derived from Davids, are in point of numbers fifth in the lists of names in England and Wales. Williams, Harris, Lewis, Reese and Rice, Evans and Ivans (a corruption), Jenks, Morgan and Meredith are all of Welsh origin. Some of the early Thomas' in Bucks county came from Wales and some from England. Cadwallader is one of the purest and oldest of Celtic names, dating to the early annals of Wales and meaning "battle arranger."

Of very great interest is the formation of surnames among the Irish and the Highlanders of Scotland. As soon as the head of a clan had adopted some hereditary name, that name was taken by all his vassals, even if they were not related by blood. This was on the principle that the chief was but the elder



brother of a large family and the name which he took belonged to all that family.

In Ireland the great majority of names of clans, borrowed as they were from some illustrious chief or ancestor, were prefixed by O, which means a grandson or descendant. Mac, another Irish prefix, is equivalent to the "ap" of the Welsh and the termination "son" of English names. In Ireland the O's outnumber the Mac's ten to one, while in Scotland the order may be said to be reversed, there being but three indigenous O's to many hundreds of Mac's. For the sake of euphony in many cases the Mac has been shortened to a simple M' with an apostrophe, or has been run in, forming one word, as is the case in Magill, Magee. MacReynolds is the only name I have found with the Mac in full, though there may be more. With the Mac shortened we find McDowell, McCorkle, McEadden, McKinsty, McIntosh and McIntyre. With the O prefix, O'Connell.

As showing in a manner and at a glance the great foundation principle on which family names have been assumed a line or two from an Act passed in 1465 by the English Parliament for the government of the Irish within four counties in Ireland will answer the purpose. They were directed among other things to wear their beards after the English fashion and to take English surnames. They were bidden "each to take him an English surname of one town as Sutton, Chester, Tryon, Cork, Kinsale; or color, as White, Black, Brown; or art or science, as Smith or Carpenter; or office, as Cook, Butler, and that he and his issue shall use this name under payne of forfeiting his goods yearly till the promises be done." Thus bidden the McGowans became Smiths; the Shannacks, Foxes, and the McIntyres, Carpenters.

Irish and Scotch names in many cases have lost their O's and Macs, if they ever had them, as in Bucks county, Hagerty, Donohue, Donnelly, Kelly and Burke are examples. These names are good Irish, despite the old rhyme, which says:

"By Mac and O  
You'll always know  
True Irishmen, they say;  
For if they lack  
Both O and Mac,  
No Irishmen are they."

Doyle, the parent name of Doylestown, is one of the commonest of Irish names.

The third great class of surnames according to their derivation are those taken from occupations or offices. Standing at the very head of the list, and pre-eminent in the whole family of surnames, on account of its numbers, is the name Smith, one well represented in Bucks county by the many descendants of Robert Smith and his immediate neighbor, William Smith, of Windybush farm, and other early settlers of the name. The simple word smith as we use it today is applied mainly to a worker in metals, but it originally came from an old Anglo-Saxon word which meant to smite or strike; and consequently it was just as applicable to a carpenter or wheelwright or mason. With this fact in mind it is not so hard to account for its universality.

As a general rule all surnames ending in "er" or "man," are names derived from occupations. There are the Bakers, Butchers, Butlers, Barbers, Carvers, Sailors, Hunters, Fishers, Millers, Weavers, Coopers, Dyers and Taylors, the Masons,

the Cooks, Wrights and Shepherds. These are all occupations, the designations of which are familiar with us to-day. There are some names of this kind, however, of which it is necessary to know something of the social and mechanical conditions of our ancestors, before we can trace their meaning. Mercer is a name still in common use in England as applied to a dealer in silks and cloths, but it ever used in this country it has completely lost its significance. Spencer is said to have been originally a dispenser or steward; Walker, a fuller; Hellyer, a roofer or thatcher; Blaker, a bleacher; Lorimer, a maker of bits, bridles and spurs, and there is in London to-day a Lorimers company making and selling these articles. Stapler was anciently a general trader, but finally became applied to a dealer in wood. Milnor was an old form for miller, and Nailor a maker of nails, while Barker was anciently synonymous with tanner. Of German origin are Snyder, a tailor, Singmaster and Shoemaker. Webster is the feminine form of Weber, a weaver, while Brewster is derived in the same way from brewer.

Firman probably comes from "ferd" man, Anglo-Saxon for soldier. Woolman, Waterman, Woodman and Leatherman show at once their derivation. Chapman was an old word meaning a seller or one who buys and sells. Buckman, an old name in the county, was undoubtedly one who had the care of deer.

There are but few surnames taken from the professions for the reason that the professions were but poorly represented in olden times. In Bucks county we find Leach an old word for physician which is still sometimes used. In Germantown there was for many years a celebrated doctor named Physick. Latimer was a translator of Latin or an interpreter.

From dignities and offices are derived a great many names. It is hard to see how some of them originated unless in mere caprice. Of an ecclesiastical nature are Parsons, Bishop, Pope, Abbott, Deacon, Pryor, Palmer, Warden, Priest and Clark. Of a civil character we have King, Burgess, Knight, Major, Page, Earl, Bailly, Halderman, Forman, Reeves, a bailiff, and Parker, one who had charge of a park.

They tell a story of this class of names that an English judge complaining of the poor quality of jurors drawn to serve on the cases before him, reprimanded the sheriff who, at the next session of the court, by making a little pause in an unusual place in reading the same names produced a jury of the highest rank. There were: Maximilian, King of Foreland, Henry, Prince of Godmanchester, George, Duke of Somersham, Edmund, Earl of Hartford, Robert, Lord of Waresly, Richard, Deacon of Catsworth, Robert, Knight of Warwick, and so on down through the list. It is said the judge enjoyed the ruse and went ahead with the court.

Salverte, an eminent French writer on surnames has observed that "of all the modes of distinguishing an individual the most natural and the one which best unites the identity and the name of the person is that of giving a designation which relates to his most conspicuous qualities." This source has given rise to many of our most common surnames. From physical characteristics Bucks



County gives us such names as Black, Blackman, Brown, Gray, White, Whitehead, Reid from Red, Large, Long, Tallman, Armstrong, Stout, Strong, Small, Lightfoot and Hardy. Indeed the list might almost be indefinitely drawn out. From moral or mental qualities we find Good the name of the honest carpenter who built Buckingham Meeting House, Noble, Grace, Fine, Calm Keen, Sharp, Rich and Eyre, meaning an heir, Child, also, meaning a son or heir. A brief mention of names of this class brings us to those names which are derived from natural objects and whose application or origin as applied to surnames is difficult or impossible to understand. One would suppose that almost any one of the four ways, that have been mentioned, the home, the occupation, the father's name or some personal description would have been sufficient to supply surnames for all the families living at the time, but it does not seem to have been the case. Names have been taken from every imaginable source. The heavenly bodies, trees, animals, plants, fruits, flowers, periods of time, the metals, have all been appropriated. The few following will give you an idea of their character and how some are represented here. I find Elms, Wood, (these might have been locality names), Flowers, Leate, Fern, Rose, Cherry, Beans and Apple in the vegetable kingdom. Fox, Hart, Kidd, Wolf, Otter and Brock in the animal. Brock is a badger in several dialects and in others it signifies a horse. Rook, Bird, Hawk and Drake represent the feathered kingdom. From minerals there are Copper, Steele, Flint, Clay and Stone. As parts of a house which however may have been local names there are Chambers, Kitchen and Hall and of miscellaneous character Hood, Ball, Day, Horn, Potts and Winter.

The one name system still exists to-day among savage and uncivilized people. Among the Indians and the colored people we can study in this country and at this time, in the case of the Indians, the formation of an interesting class of surnames. In the recent Indian outbreaks one of the chiefs who took a prominent part was "Young Man Afraid of His Horses," which if used by his descendants will make a very cumbersome but a striking appellation. Jennie, Chief Black Kettle's daughter comes to the Carlisle school and forthwith becomes Miss Jennie Black-Kettle. In the same way James Standing-deer gets his name, a name that will no doubt become hereditary with his generation but which may become shortened to simply Deer in the next. The colored people usually adopted the surname of their master or boldly appropriated some illustrious name that struck their fancy, George Washington and Thomas Jefferson being particular favorites. Surnames among these people are the only ones which may be said to have originated in this country yet some of our Bucks county names have undergone slight changes in spelling since they were first brought here. Eastburn, an old Rucks county name, was spelled in the old records, Eastbourne, while John Sotcher, Penn's steward at Pennsbury, whose name signifies one who works in leather, had his name spelled Satcher and Sotcher indiscriminately. Rynier Tyson, one of Creffelders who with Pastorius settled Germantown and the ancestor of the Tysons

in this and Montgomery county, has had his name spelled in almost a dozen different ways. As many of our early ancestors could not write, their names were left to the mercy of every clerk or conveyancer who would sometimes spell them phonetically and then again with as many letters as he could possibly crowd in. Livezey is another name which appears differently in different places. In some of the old deeds and records it is written Lcosley and I find that it is still pronounced in this way among some people and in some neighborhoods. It is to this variation in orthography that we occasionally see families spelling their names one way and some another. The names Reed, Reid and Read are all derived from the same source. In the town where I live one of the great social problems is whether Wister should end with "er" or "ar".

Some of you whose surnames I have used may have had different theories and traditions as to the origin of your name. I can only say in conclusion that the literature on the subject is quite voluminous and should you take the trouble to investigate for yourselves you will find it, I think, both interesting and fruitful. While in some few cases the authorities disagree, on the whole there is an unanimity in their conclusions which places the whole subject of family nomenclature beyond the pale of surmise and hypothesis.

From, *Intelligencer*  
*Doylestown Pa.*  
 Date, *July 19<sup>th</sup> 1893.*

## HISTORIANS MEET.

THE BUCKS COUNTY HISTORICAL  
 SOCIETY AT MENLO.

The Midsummer Meeting Held in Perkasio's  
 Beautiful Park Where Cool Breezes  
 Fan the Cheeks of Those Who Delve  
 in the Records of the Past.

The summer meeting of the Bucks County Historical Society was held at the beautiful Menlo Park, at Perkasio, on Tuesday. The weather was oppressive but the refreshing breezes for which the heights, upon which the pavilion is located, are noted were not wanting and the small audience present at the session of the society was able to enjoy the reading of the excellent papers without discomfort from the effects of the "sizzard" that seemed to prevail everywhere.

The first session was scheduled to open at 10.30 a. m. but as the president did not arrive until an hour later he thought it wise to postpone the reading of any



papers until after the officers, members and visitors had fortified themselves with lunch. It is possible he had heard of the preparations that had been made for the event and wished to ascertain if rumor had reported correctly. At all events lunch was first had, and then it was discovered that Dame Rumor was correct. The park management, having heard of the penchant of the president of the society for cherry pie, had ordered one made in the good old style of the upper end, with cherry pits and all, to the thickness of from one-and-a-half to two inches. The substantial, yet withal delicate, piece of pastry was presented to the president and it was only upon his suffrance that the other members of the society enjoyed sampling it.

It was half-past one when General W. W. H. Davis called the society to order and asked for the reading of the minutes of the January meeting and the report of the secretary and treasurer. This routine business over the society at once delved into historical matters, four able papers being read.

The first was on "The Bristol Road," by Rev. S. F. Hotchkin, of Bustleton, and it was followed by one on "The Bucks County Jail," by Rev. D. K. Turner, of Hartsville. Henry C. Mercer, of Doylestown, read an interesting paper under the caption of "Notes Taken at Random," which consisted of unpublished local traditions collected in his travels. All of the above papers will be published entire in subsequent issues of the INTELLIGENCER.

The last paper of the session was read by Rev. J. G. Dengler, of Sellersville, and was, as he said, a "Local Melange."

Owing to a want of time to cast about for historical material, on account of his work as chairman of the committee of arrangements for the celebration of the centennial of the Reformed church on Saturday, Mr. Dengler said he had been unable to prepare a paper worthy the dignity and purpose of the historical society and the honor of the part of the county which has received and maintained him as a citizen. In preparation for the centennial celebration Mr. Dengler said he was led to an investigation of the records of the early and trying days of the Reformed church in America, and here found much of great interest. He said he was peculiarly attracted by certain characters to a few whom, for want of a better subject now, he would call their attention by way of presenting the character of one who spent his closing days in this part of the county, and whose ashes lie in the old graveyard of the Indian Creek Reformed Church near Telford. The following are extracts from his paper.

Our attention was directed to a very strong character among many others in connection with our celebration—an elder in the Reformed church to the close of his life. We refer to Baron Von Steuben. We question whether the whole list of eminent men present a more interesting character than General Von Steuben, when properly studied.

Born in Magdeburg, Germany, in 1730, his father a very distinguished officer in the Prussian army, in which the Baron was a cadet at the age of 14, soon stood very near that ruggedly grand character, Frederick the Great, fought gallantly in the seven years war, became grand marshal at court, but when court life became

monotonous he traveled extensively. His superiors soon found him a man of too liberal views and after traveling from court to court, he determined to go to England by way of Paris, where he met our Franklin and Deane, the commissioners there, who from deep insight into our general affairs at home saw in the chivalric young Baron the very man needed, as drill master, to bring order out of the chaos of the Continental Army. After debating it a long time he came, being disgusted with the hollowness of the courts, in a vessel which caught fire three times and the hatches full of gunpowder.

He arrived at Portsmouth 1777, with his suite. On horseback they proceeded to York, Pa., where Congress was in session. The Baron was for a time much depressed because he did not understand the language used, but when he came to Pennsylvania he became another man because he heard the language of his home. At York he was received with great honor. In the most complimentary terms Congress detailed him to proceed to Valley Forge and report to General Washington. I trust all here know what the state of things were at Valley Forge in the gloomiest period of those gloomy days.

Steuben was appointed by Washington to the then most important office of inspector general. He at once set to work reorganizing and drilling the barefooted, ill-clad army almost incessantly—it is said he did it to keep them from freezing. Much could be said of his work, let one word of Lossing express all when he says, "After this the Continental Regulars were never beaten in a fair fight."

Steuben did his full duty to the end of the war, commanding divisions in battles and directing the trenches in the siege of Yorktown. The General a number of times declined promotions, and smiled at the promotions which some received. After the war he lived in New York city, spending his summer months on his land in Oneida county. He was an active elder in our church in Nassau street, of which the learned Rev. Dr. Gross was pastor. The whole community honored the somewhat eccentric Baron. He could by his presence quiet any disturbance and an angry crowd would stop to give three cheers for Baron Steuben. Immediately after his death his aide, General North, had a tablet erected in the church of which he was a member, bearing this inscription:

"Sacred to the memory of Frederick William Augustus—Baron de Steuben—a

German; Knight of the Order of Fidelity; Aide-de-Camp of Frederick the Great, King of Prussia; Major-General and Inspector-General of the Revolutionary War, esteemed, respected and supported by Washington. He gave military skill and discipline to the citizen soldiers who, fulfilling the decree of heaven, achieved the Independence of the United States. The highly polished manners of the Baron were graced by the most noble feelings of his heart. His hand, open as day for meeting charity, closed only in the strong grasp of death. This memorial is inscribed by an American who had the honor to be his aide-de-camp, the happiness to be his friend." No wonder, then, that such a character arrested our attention for a moment. We turn from other distinguished laymen of our church, i. e., Hillegass, the honest treasurer of those days, the honest friend



Washington, to one or two others. Let one brief remark signify much. With but very few exceptions all the pastors of the Reformed church were earnest advocates of independence. In their reports to the authorities in the old country they spoke of the British as enemies. We could easily trace the cause of this, both in the trials through which they passed in the old country as well as in the new conditions here, but we cannot now.

They appointed days of fasting and prayer. The texts chosen on especially those days show what was their spirit, and it is no wonder that they frequently got into trouble with the English, *e. g.*, Rev. John H. Weikel, pastor of Boehms' church, in Montgomery county, preached on text, "Better is a poor and wise child than an old and foolish King who will no more be admonished." A preacher who had courage to select such a text had grit enough to say something on it too.

Rev. Dr. Weyberg, of Race street, Philadelphia, was imprisoned for his patriotism, and his church occupied by the British. He preached expressly once to the Hessian mercenaries and it was said if they would not silence him the whole body of them would leave the British cause. On the Sunday after his liberation from prison, and seeing how the British had desecrated his church, which cost over \$2500 to repair, he preached on the text, "O God, the heathen have come into thine inheritance! Thy holy temple have they defiled." We cannot say much of any one much less of quite a member of these heroic men in the pulpit.

Dr. Weyberg among the soldiers is alone a subject for an intensely interesting and pathetic paper. When General Richard Montgomery was killed in the famous attack on the city of Quebec—his eulogy was delivered in the Race Street Reformed Church, Philadelphia. When the opinions of citizens were very much divided on the subject of the war the strong and clear resolutions of loyalty to the cause of freedom and the communication sent to Washington on his election to the Presidency by the synod show distinctly of what mind and spirit those early pastors were.

We would like to speak of the highly cultured Rev. Dr. Herman for two reasons—on account of his heroism and devotion to the people when the yellow fever prevailed and many fled and on account of the specially warm friendship between General Washington and him. Washington attended his church frequently and once communed with his congregation. But enough. We now turn to the other side for the purpose of approaching the character we in the beginning intended to present, but whom we approach so indirectly for want of sufficient data to furnish a whole paper. We are the creatures of circumstances largely. We were for the Union because we could not well be otherwise. What had we born and reared in the sunny South?

What a power there is in the purely social relations to determine one for or against a principle! Conscientious ministers of the gospel before the war preached sermons upholding the system of slavery. We have a singular volume in our library on "The Pro and Con of Slavery," by a Southern Episcopal divine, with the weight of his argument

in favor of slavery, and so all through. Go back to the Revolution. Go to the city of New York as it then was, at a time when the British ruled there in outer affairs and especially in high social matters. The Nassau Street Reformed Church was a very prominent and highly influential congregation. Their pastor was a young man not only of the very highest order of mental training of the best universities of Germany but a man of refined culture and accustomed to move in the best circles of polished society. His first relation to the British it would seem to have been purely social, but it did not end there. From personal attachment he was led to avow the principles of his friends of influence and from this he was led to become an outspoken loyalist. This was well enough for the polished pastor so long as the British had the rule, social and otherwise, but the tables turned and the pastor of Nassau street found himself where many others found themselves, on the wrong side of popular opinion and favor.

It is easy to see why the days of usefulness of this pastor came to an end and an unpleasant end. He quietly left New York. He moved to Montgomery, where he remained to the close of the war, and soon afterwards he went to Halifax and in 1788 he wandered to Pennsylvania, to our own county, to Rockhill township, preached in Tobickon and other churches not even one year. He died in the same year, 1788, March 22d, poor, heartsick and of course as far as his true character, history and ability were concerned a total stranger among strangers. Such was the career of the Rev. John Michael Kern, of whom we often think with feelings of peculiar sadness, because we feel assured that it was purely the force of circumstances that determined his life and that brought a once brilliant and hopeful career to such a humble and obscure close.

But little is known of this character, but what is here indicated, no doubt, because Kern himself took special pains to allow but little to be known of his former relations. No doubt he died as he wished to die, unknown and to be absolutely forgotten. As to his moral and official character nothing in the least derogatory to honor and sincerity is known. We think of him as a man of honest intentions, whom the receding tide of popular opinion left alone and forsaken in a new and strange land, and who after having wandered lonely and disconsolate at large, came to the deep wilds of upper Bucks and Montgomery counties, here to die and be forgotten.

From, *Democrat*

*Doylestown Pa.*

Date, *July 24/1893,*

BUCKS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

EARLY AND TRYING DAYS OF THE REFORMED CHURCH IN AMERICA.



Read Before the Bucks County Historical Society, at Menlo Park, Perkasie, July 18th, 1895, by Rev. J. G. Dengler, of Sellersville.

IN preparing for the celebration of the centennial of the Reformed Church, of which I had the honor to be chairman of the Committee of Arrangements, I was led to an investigation of the records of the early and trying days of the Reformed Church in America, and there found much of interest. I was peculiarly attracted by certain characters, to a few of whom, for want of a better subject now, I will call attention by way of presenting the character of one who spent his closing days in this part of the county, and whose ashes lie in the old graveyard of the Indian Creek Reformed Church near Telford.

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Steuben did his full duty to the end of the war, commanding divisions in battles and directing the trenches in the siege of Yorktown. The General a number of times declined promotions, and smiled at the promotions which some received. After the war he lived in New York city, spending his summer months on his land in Oneida county. He was an active elder in our Church in Nassau street, of which the learned Rev. Dr. Gross was pastor. The whole community honored the somewhat eccentric Baron. He could by his presence quiet any disturbance and an angry crowd would stop to give three cheers for Baron Steuben. Immediately after his death his aid, General North, had a tablet erected in the Church of which he was a member, bearing this inscription:

"Sacred to the memory of Frederick William Augustus—Baron de Steuben—a German; Knight of the Order of Fidelity; Aide-de-Camp of Frederick the Great, King of Prussia; Major-General and Inspector-General of the Revolutionary War, esteemed, respected and supported by Washington. He gave military skill and discipline to the citizen soldiers who, fulfilling the decree of heaven, achieved the Independence of the United States. The highly polished manners of the Baron were graced by the most noble feelings of his heart. His hand, open as day for meeting charity, closed only in the strong grasp of death. This memorial is inscribed by an American who had the honor to be his aide-de-camp, the happiness to be his friend."

No wonder, then, that such a character arrested our attention for a moment. We turn from other distinguished laymen of our Church, *i. e.*, Hillegass, the honest treasurer of those days, the honest friend of Washington, to one or two others. Let one brief remark signify much. With but very few exceptions all the pastors of the Reformed Church were earnest advocates of independence. In their reports to the authorities in the old country they spoke of the British as enemies. We could easily trace the cause of this, both in the trials through which they passed in the old country as well as in the new conditions here, but we cannot now.

They appointed days of fasting and prayer. The texts chosen on especially those days show what was their spirit; and it is no wonder that they frequently got into trouble with the English, *e. g.*, Rev. John H. Weikel, pastor of Boehms' church, in Montgomery county, preached on text, "Better is a poor and wise child than an old and foolish King who will no more be admonished." A preacher who had courage to select such a text had grit enough to say something on it, too.

Rev. Dr. Weyberg, of Race street, Philadelphia, was imprisoned for his patriotism, and his Church occupied by the British. He preached expressly one to the Hessian mercenaries and it was said if they would not silence him the whole body of them would leave the British cause. On the Sunday after his liberation from prison, and seeing how the British had desecrated his Church, which cost over \$2,500 to repair, he preached on the text, "O God, the heathen have come into thine inheritance! Thy holy temple have they defiled." We cannot say much of any one much less of quite a member of these heroic men in the pulpit.

Dr. Weyberg among the soldiers is



alone a subject for an intensely interesting and pathetic paper. When General Richard Montgomery was killed in the famous attack on the city of Quebec—his eulogy was delivered in the Race Street Reformed Church, Philadelphia. When the opinions of citizens were very much divided on the subject of the war the strong and clear resolutions of loyalty to the cause of freedom and the communication sent to Washington on his election to the Presidency by the Synod show distinctly of what mind and spirit those early pastors were.

We would like to speak of the highly cultured Rev. Dr. Herman for two reasons—on account of his heroism and devotion to the people when the yellow fever prevailed and many fled and on account of the specially warm friendship between General Washington and him. Washington attended his Church frequently and once communed with his congregation. But enough. We now turn to the other side for the purpose of approaching the character we in the beginning intended to present, but whom we approach so indirectly for want of sufficient data to furnish a whole paper. We are the creatures of circumstances largely. We were for the Union because we could not well be otherwise. What had we born and reared in the sunny South?

What a power there is in the purely social relations to determine one for or against a principle! Conscientious ministers of the gospel before the war preached sermons upholding the system of slavery. We have a singular volume in our library on "The Pro and Con of Slavery," by a Southern Episcopal divine, with the weight of his argument in favor of slavery, and so all through. Go back to the Revolution. Go to the city of New York as it then was, at a time when the British ruled there in outer affairs and especially in high social matters. The Nassau Street Reformed Church was a very prominent and highly influential congregation. Their pastor was a young man not only of the very highest order of mental training of the best universities of Germany but a man of refined culture and accustomed to move in the best circles of polished society.

His first relation to the British it would seem to have been purely social, but it did not end there. From personal attachment he was led to avow the principles of his friends of influence and from this he was led to become an outspoken loyalist. This was well enough for the polished pastor so long as the British had the rule, social and otherwise, but the tables turned and the pastor of Nassau street found himself where many others found themselves, on the wrong side of popular opinion and favor.

It is easy to see why the days of usefulness of this pastor came to an end and an unpleasant end. He quietly left New York. He moved to Montgomery, where he remained to the close of the war, and soon afterwards he went to Halifax and in 1788 he wandered to Pennsylvania, to our own county, to Rockhill township, preached in Tohickon and other churches not even one year. He died in the same year, 1788, March 22, poor, heartsick and of course as far as his true character, history and ability were concerned a total stranger among strangers.

Such was the career of the Rev. John Michael Kern, of whom we often think

with feelings of peculiar sadness, because we feel assured that it was purely the force of circumstances that determined his life and that brought a once brilliant and hopeful career to such a humble and obscure close.

But little is known of this character but what is here indicated, no doubt, because Kern himself took special pains to allow but little to be known of his former relations. No doubt he died as he wished to die, unknown and to be absolutely forgotten. As to his moral and official character nothing in the least derogatory to honor and sincerity is known. We think of him as a man of honest intentions, whom the receding tide of popular opinion left alone and forsaken in a new and strange land, and who after having wandered lonely and disconsolate at large, came to the deep wilds of upper Bucks and Montgomery counties, here to die and be forgotten.

From, *Intelligencer*  
*Doylestown Pa.*  
 Date, *July 29<sup>th</sup> 1893.*

#### LOCAL HISTORY.

##### The Enrollment of Plumstead in the Revolution.

The township of Plumstead divides with New Britain and Hilltown, the breadth of Bucks county where a bend of the Delaware makes it of narrower width than elsewhere. It is a region of valleys, of hillside slopes and of highlands separating water courses. To the northeast is the steep slope towards the depressed valleys of the Delaware and Tohickon into which flow Hickory, Gaddis and Cabin runs. The township forms a summit level, from which streams flow east and west the, latter being North Branch and Pine Run, affluents of the Neshaminy. A much traveled road, the great highway to Easton, passes in a north and south direction across the township, and another seeks the Delaware at Point Pleasant.

Within Plumstead was the upper line of the compact settlements of the Friends, extending along the Delaware northward from Bristol. In the upper portion they were met by Scotch-Irish Presbyterians in considerable numbers, and also by German Mennonites. In this list, made August 21st, 1775, the Germans were greatly in the minority among the Non-Associators, or about 29 names among 105. In the Militia Company, the proportion was rather less, about 13 names among 84. Being thrown so much in contact with English speaking people, they become Anglicized earlier in Plumstead, and in fact all along the Delaware



side of the county, than in the townships lying further westward. Since the Revolution the descendants of German settlers have much increased in Plumstead, now forming a majority of the people. This has partly been because of the addiction of the Mennonites to agriculture rather than to mercantile and professional pursuits and Plumstead has remained an agricultural township, with no large villages. From time immemorial the township has been Whig and Republican in politics, as the Quaker and Mennonite element predominated among the voters. The Scotch-Irish contingent furnished the most vigorous and earnest fighters in Revolutionary times. Their descendants trained in the Democratic ranks of seventy years ago, but now they have largely disappeared.

In these lists we find names of many families connected with the early settlement of the township, such as Childs, Bradshaw, Day, Michener, Carlisle and Dyer. The Micheners were numerous then as they are to-day. The Smiths were then in force—even two John Smiths. The Conards lived near Fountainville. The families of Childs, Day and Dyer early settled the south corner of the township. John Sees came from Europe some twenty years before the Revolution, when a youth, and first lived in the city of New York. Although in the list of Non-Associators in 1775, at a later period he joined the military, and was ensign of the 7th company of the 2d Battalion in March, 1779. He was also a teamster in the Continental Army, following its marches all the way to Ticonderoga. One of his sons named John, lived on a farm near Point Pleasant, till 1872, but died in North Wales as late as 1884. In this list also are historic names, without mention of which, the history of Bucks county, during the Revolution cannot be written—for here we find those of Doan, Vickers, Kennedy, Hinkle, Grier, Gaddis, Shaw and Gibson.

#### NON-ASSOCIATORS.

William Bradshaw	Thomas Lewis
John Bradshaw	John Louder
Thomas Brown	Isaac Michener
John Brown	Mesech Michener
Jonah Brown	Joseph Michener
Abraham Black, Sr.	Barak Michener
Abraham Black, Jr.	George Michener
John Bother	Mahlon Michener
John Banks	George Michener
Conard Bean	Samuel Meyers
John Boyle	John Meyers
Elias Carey	Israel Morris
John Carey, Jr.	Andrew McGuigan
John Closer	Abraham Overholt
or Closson	Isaac Overholt
Samuel Carver	Smith Price
and servant	Joseph Roberts
John Cutler	Benjamin Rich
Jacob Clemens	John Rodgers
Samuel Coster	George Rodgers
Cephas Child	Samuel Stradling
Cephas Child, Jr.	Joseph Stradling
Joseph Child	John Smith
Henry Carr	David Smith, Jr.
Everard Conard	John Smith
Joseph Conard	Thomas Smith's son
John Carlisle	Mathias Smith
Jonathan Carlisle	James Shaw, Jr.
Daniel Carlisle	John Shaw
John Dyer	Alexander Shaw
Isaac Dunken	Jonathan Shaw
Jacob Dunken	Moses Shaw
Christopher Day	Jonathan Shaw, Jr.
Joseph Doan	Amos Shaw
Joseph Doan, Jr.	Michael Swartz

Mahlon Doan	and servant
Moses Doan	Nathaniel Sample
Israel Doan	Charles Stewart, Jr.
Andrew Ellicott	John Stiner
John Ferguson	William Severns
Nathaniel Ferrity	John Sees
Francis Good	Abraham Tucker
Jonathan Good	Thomas Tusten
Edward Good	Joseph Tucker
Christian Gayman	Edward Updegrave
Matthew Hughes	Peter Vickers
Jonathan Hough	Jacob Vickers
Henry Huddleson	Solomon Vickers
Thomas Hill	Thomas Wright
James Kinnard	Joseph Wilson
Philip Kratz	Jonathan Wells
and servant	

#### THE PLUMSTEAD MILITIA COMPANY.

The company formed in 1775, belonged to the Second Battalion, and was numbered the 7th. Captain, William McCalla; first lieutenant, William Kennedy; second lieutenant, Jacob Carter; ensign, Robert Gibson, all of Scotch-Irish stock. Four years later, in March 1779, we find different officers: Captain, Robert Gibson; first lieutenant, David Thomas; second lieutenant, James Temple; ensign, John Sees.

#### PRIVATEES.

John Boyd	Jonathan Huntsman
Adam Bean	Barnet Kepler
Conrad Bean, Jr.	William Kennedy
George Burns	Richard Lott
Jesse Brittain	Patrick McGahan
Nathaniel Brittain	Alexander
Samuel Brittain	McFarland
Peter Cosner	Alexander McCalla
William Chilcott	Daniel Millhoff
Jacob Carsdrop	Cornelius Neafur
Thomas Craig	David Nesbit
John Dunlap	Patrick Poe
John Dunlap, Jr.	Joseph McMullen
Joseph Dyer	William Meredith
William Davis	Joseph McCalla
Thomas Dickinson	John McMullen
Philip Fox	Valentine Mosteller
Hugh Fleming	John Rodgers
John Forsman	Ezekiel Rodgers
David Forsman	Alexander Robinson
Peter Fodder	George Rice
Hugh Ferguson	Charles Stewart
Levi Fell	James Sample
Benjamin Fell	William Smith
James Faries	David Smith
Benjamin Griffith	John Smith
George Gaddis	George Stewart
John Gaddis	Joseph Severns
Henry Gaddis	Andrew Shaffer
Matthew Grier	Joseph Shaffer
Joseph Grier	Samuel Titus
Robert Gibson	Isaac Thomas
Robert Gibson, Jr.	Daniel Thomas
John Gibson	Joseph Thomas
George Hughes	William Tyndall
Philip Hinkle.	Peter Traugh
Samuel Hair	Francis Titus
Isaac Hill	Francis Titus
William Hart	John VanFossen
Joseph Hart	Samuel Watts
John Hart	Peter Wood
John Haskins	

E. M.



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From, *Intelligence*  
*Doylestown Pa.*  
Date, *Aug. 2<sup>nd</sup> 1893,*

### THE BUCKS COUNTY JAIL.

Read Before the Bucks County Historical  
Society, July 18, 1893, by Rev.

D. K. Turner, of  
Hartsville.

The punishment of criminals is coeval with the human race. The first pair were violators of law and experienced the evil consequences of their offence in expulsion from the garden of Eden, their beautiful home, in the loss of innocence, sorrow, and the perpetuation of evil in their posterity. Ever since their day it has been necessary for the good of society to inflict some kind of penalty upon those, who disregard the rights of their fellow men in the pursuit of pleasure, gain, or revenge.

Inferior misdeeds, as justice requires, are usually followed by lighter retribution than those of greater turpitude, and accordingly in our country offenders of deeper criminality are incarcerated in State Penitentiaries for a longer term, and those of a milder type in County Jails for a shorter period.

From the earliest history Bucks county has had a court house for the trial of accused persons and a place for the confinement of such as were convicted. Corporeal chastisement with the whip has not been unknown within our limits, but shutting up within prison walls has been more generally practised, especially within the last hundred years. This county was designated by William Penn as one of the three counties of Pennsylvania in 1682, soon after his arrival in the Province, and one of his first measure in the organization of local governments was the appointment of sheriffs for each county. Then the judges of the lower courts were nominated, and their sessions formally opened by the Governor. The first court in the county was held at the house of Gilbert Wheeler, March 4, 1684, William Penn presiding, and Richard Noble, sheriff. No mention has been left in the county records of the erection of the first public building, and we are not informed exactly where they were, now what were their dimensions or appearance. The minutes of the second session of the Court of Quarter Sessions commence thus; "Court met at Court House, 11th day, 12th month, 1684-5." No doubt the jail was attached to it or under the same roof, but on what precise spot is left to

conjecture, and few hints are supplied which aid us in forming an opinion as to its definite location. The Provincial Assembly of 1683 passed an order, that each county erect a house of correction with dimensions of 16 by 24 feet, and at this session of the court William Biles and William Beakes were directed "to buy 10 or 12 acres of land to be laid to the public use of the county, and that they do it, if they can before the next Court." At the Falls Monthly Meeting of Friends, June 7th, 1686, it was proposed to hold their regular meetings in the court house, at a rent of 2½ shillings a month; but the idea was afterwards abandoned, "because there was no convenience of seats or water."

From this it appears that the first jail and court house were in Falls township. July 14, 1687, the records state that "Philip Conway, being in custody for misdemeanor, and being in the prison below the court, was very unruly in words and actions to the great disturbance of the king's peace and of the court in the exercise of their duties, cursing the justices and other officers, casting logs against the door, and endeavoring to make as much disturbance as he could; therefore, the Court orders that the £40 forfeited by him be levied according to his said recognizance on his lands, goods and chattels." It seems from this incident that the jail was under the court room. About forty years ago a tradition was narrated by Jacob Smith, who owned a farm just below Morrisville, that the first court house and jail had been on his property, about two hundred yards from the river bank and opposite to what was then called Moon's Island. The building was of logs, two stories in height, on a stone foundation, with an attic, about 20x40 feet in size. The first story was divided into two rooms, one somewhat larger than the other; the smaller being used for the jail and the others for the court. The windows of the former and the throat of the fireplace were secured with iron bars.

This description does not correspond to the idea formed from the scanty allusions of the records, but there may have been two court houses before the one erected in Bristol, as the minutes of court of December, 1793, begin thus: "At the court house near the falls," as if the judges were in a different place from that in which they had met previously. However, if there were two, they were both in the vicinity of the Delaware river, in the lower part of the county, where the earliest settlements in the county were made. Gradually population extended into the interior and a different location for the public buildings was demanded. After much discussion the offer by Samuel Carpenter, of Bristol, in 1705, of a site was accepted and the court determined to meet in that town in June. He directed also that a pair of stocks and a whipping-post should be reared for the punishment of those who might be found guilty of drunkenness and other misdemeanors. But the edifice, for some unknown reason, was not erected till 1709, and where the court sat in the meantime, whether in the old house or in some temporary structure, is uncertain. In that year the court ordered a tax of two pence in the pound, which is in the ratio of 8½ mills to the dollar, to defray the expense of the new court house and prison. The structure



was accordingly built and braved the storms of 125 years, though it was not employed all that time for the same honorable ends which marked its birth. In 1834 it was still standing, when Hon. William Kinscy bought and took it down. He states that it was built of brick, two stories high, 24x31 feet, with a whipping-post attached, and a beam extended out from the end for a gallows when required. The upper room was for the court and the lower for a prison.

The seat of Justice remained in Bristol about twenty years, during which period settlers rapidly multiplied toward the Northwest and the location was inconvenient for many, who were obliged to travel long distances over poor roads to transact public business. A call was extensively heard for its removal to a more central spot. In 1724 the Assembly passed an Act empowering Jeremiah Langhorne, William Biles, Joseph Kirkbride, Jr., Dr. Thomas Watson and Abraham Chapman to build a new court house and jail in the county of Bucks. The expense was not to exceed 300£, which, if English currency, would be \$1500, a sum which seems small, but which had much more purchasing value than at the present day. After carefully looking for a central and suitable site the gentlemen appointed, fixed upon Newtown, and purchased five acres of land in that place from John Walley. The court house and prison were separate edifices, made of brick, and faced the south, but no minute account of them has come down to us. Before many years had passed, the prison was too small for the use required of it, and in 1745 a more commodious structure superseded it and the old jail was employed as a workhouse and reformatory. The new jail was surrounded by an ample yard, enclosed by a stone

wall, and furnished with a set of stocks according to the custom of that era. It has been a tradition, generally credited, that the jail in Newtown was once destroyed by fire, whether the older or later building is not specified, nor does rumor intimate, if it was due to the incendiary scheme of some inmate anxious for his liberty.

The story is confirmed by a presentment of the grand jury, in what year is uncertain, that "John Webber, being a prisoner in the prison-house in Newtown, wilfully set fire to the said house, whereby the same was consumed to ashes."

Joseph Doane, one of the five brothers of that name, who were celebrated during the Revolutionary War for their deeds of daring and hostility to the cause of independence, was captured and incarcerated at Newtown. He was endowed with great physical strength and activity, and was accused of robbing and plundering houses, stealing horses and committing other acts of violence against the lives and property of those who favored America. He was held for trial and might have been condemned to death, if he had not by cunning and agility succeeded in escaping in the night, when the keeper was asleep. He fled to New Jersey, where he is said to have made a better use of his talents, than he had done before, in teaching school, but not feeling safe there he went to Canada, the refuge of modern culprits, where he died at an advanced age.

During the struggle for freedom from Great Britain some of the Society of Friends were confined in the prison at

Newtown, because they refused to take up arms or pay taxes for the maintenance of the army. General Davis mentions in his history of the county that Joseph Smith, of Buckingham, the inventor of an iron mould board for a plow, declining from conscientious scruples to pay anything for the support of the war, was put in jail, and amused himself during his confinement by making with a jackknife models of his plow, which he threw over the jail wall. They were picked up and excited much interest as an important improvement in agriculture, which was destined to prove the source of great benefit to the country. Thomas Watson, of Buckingham, also, another Friend, was imprisoned. On account of a detachment of troops being encamped in the neighborhood of his home in the winter of 1778-79 hay had become extremely scarce. Watson had saved a stack and rather than sell it for worthless Continental money he determined to distribute it among his neighbors, who had suffered more from military requisitions than he. This was made a ground of accusation against him. He was tried by court-martial and sentenced to be hanged for treason. Efforts to obtain his pardon were in vain, until his wife went to Lord Sterling, then in command of the American troops in that region, and with tears prevailed upon him to issue an order for his liberation.

Toward the last part of the last century the public buildings in Newtown had become old and inadequate to the wants of the county. Many in the lower districts wished to see new edifices in the same place, and presented petitions to the Legislature with that in view. But this plan was not acceptable to the people in the upper townships, who by this time had greatly increased in numbers. They asserted that Newtown was thirteen miles from the centre of the county and that they ought not to be compelled to go so far to the courts and public offices. In 1800 a meeting of citizens was held at Shaw's tavern, in Bedminster, to protest against erecting a new court house and jail at Newtown, and "thereby permanently fix the seat of justice at that place." Not only was the village far from being central, but they said "the roads through it were so unpopular as never to support a sufficient number of public houses to accommodate the many that will be obliged to attend court." A petition was prepared and sent to the Legislature praying for a removal of the county seat to a more convenient location. Similar action was taken at gatherings in Haycock at the house of John Ahlum, in 1808, in Buckingham and in other neighborhoods. Yielding to the desire expressed by so many, the Assembly passed an Act in 1810, which was approved by the Governor and which provided for the appointment of three "discreet and disinterested persons, not holding real estate in the county, to select a site for the public buildings, which shall be not more than three miles from Bradshaw's Corner," now styled Pool's Corner. The Governor chose Edward Darlington, of Chester county; Gabriel Hiester, Jr., of Berks, and Nicholas Kern, of Northampton county. They met at Newtown early in May. The Turk, Centreville and other districts were discussed, and they had almost come to the conclusion to fix upon Pool's Corner, when citizens of Doylestown brought such influences



to bear upon them that they yielded to their representations. Nathaniel Shewell, of New Britain, who owned the triangular piece of land between Court and Main streets, in Doylestown, offered to donate nearly three acres to the county, if that site was selected; the owner of the Clear Spring promised unrestricted access to it for county purposes, and another gentleman offered a plat of ground near the spot on which the Catholic church now stands for a potter's field. This decided the commission in favor of Doylestown, and on the 12th of May, 1810, the land was deeded to the county, which is still the site of the court house and from which the jail frowned darkly seventy-two years.

*Concluded to-morrow.*

*From, Intelligencer*  
*Doylestown Pa.*

*Date, Aug. 3<sup>rd</sup> 1893.*

#### THE BUCKS COUNTY JAIL.

Read Before the Bucks County Historical Society, July 18, 1893, by Rev.

D. K. Turner, of  
Hartsville.

The work on the jail was apparently done first; but it was so intermingled with that on the court house, and materials for the two were purchased so far simultaneously, that no statements of the expense of one, as distinguished from the other, can be accurately made. Little was effected toward the erection of the buildings during that year, and 1811 passed without accomplishing more than obtaining lumber and stone. The latter was delivered on the ground for 56 cents a perch, and the privilege was secured of taking loose stone from the quarry of Septimus Evans for 12½ cents a perch; an illustration of the fact that prices were far lower then than now. Lime was hauled from Whitemarsh, for a long period the great reservoir of that commodity. Levi Bond and Enos Yardley contracted to do the carpenter work at eight shillings and four pence per day, which in Pennsylvania currency amounted to \$1.11 per day, and they were no doubt to board themselves and to work from morning till night without reference to the number of hours. The county was to furnish the whisky at the raisings. The wages were afterwards increased to \$1.25 a day and the number of men employed to 25, as the Legislative enactment required that the work should be completed within three years. The total cost of the buildings was \$38,057, but what proportion of that sum went to the jail it is impossible to determine. It stood north of the court house and consisted of a rectangular structure facing court street with two wings, one at each corner of the rear of the main edifice, forming thus three sides of a hollow square, the

fourth side being guarded by a high stone wall.

On May 4, 1813, the offices were ready for books and papers appropriate to the several departments, and the jail for the prisoners, and on the 13th Sheriff Samuel Sellers transferred the culprits from Newtown to their future "durance vile" in Doylestown; and no doubt they enjoyed the ride of fourteen miles under their kind-hearted conductor, and perhaps a song now and then burst from their lips as they passed over hill and dale and through leafy groves on that bright spring morning. It must have been quite a long procession, of which they formed a part, for there were ten wagons filled with public property, among other things the twelve stone steps of the old court house; and it is quite certain that these squared and dressed steps are serving a good purpose yet somewhere about the premises. The court house, old office, jail and jail yard and public ground thereto appertaining in Newtown were sold at public auction to John Hulme for \$1650, and the new office and lot of ground belonging to it to William Watts for \$900.

The first jail in Doylestown remained in use more than seventy years, but when it had reached the age of three score and ten, infirmities crept in upon it. The walls were for the most part sound, but the wood-work, floors, window frames, sash and doors were shrunken and decayed by the lapse of time, and it was too small and insecure for the proper detention of prisoners. The inhabitants of the county had multiplied many fold, but the capacity of the prison had not expanded. Many convicts were necessarily confined in one room, involving injury to their health and morals. Repairs often made did not remedy its defects, and it was plainly seen that the termination of its usefulness had been well nigh reached. A new court house was completed in 1877 at a cost of about \$100,000, and this large outlay had much influence in retarding the construction of a better jail. The same year a fire occurred in the venerable pile, which threatened to destroy everything combustible in it, seeming to portend its approaching downfall. Its antique appearance, too, in contrast with the beautiful temple of justice reared at its side, was sadly against it, and the ground, on which it stood, was wanted to enlarge the park and set off the attractions of its fair neighbor. With a sigh escaping from its iron-bound doors it quietly made up its mind "to shuffle off this mortal coil" and lie down to endless sleep and pleasant dreams.

In February, 1882, the grand jury unanimously declared it to be their opinion that "the present building used for a jail is entirely unfit for the purpose, and earnestly recommend the construction of a new building." The succeeding grand jury in May and the State Board of Public Charities advanced similar views, and the general opinion of citizens was that the work should be undertaken as soon as the county had liquidated its debt without increasing the rate of taxation.

In January, 1884, the site where the jail now stands was selected by the Board of Public Charities and the commissioners, Messrs. John Wynkoop, James T. Breisch and Isaac Ryan. It was chosen in preference to the corner of Court and Church streets, because being as desira-



ble in other respects, it was somewhat less elevated and would afford a more liberal supply of water. It was the property of Dr. George T. Harvey, and in February the commissioners bought four acres of him commanding a beautiful prospect toward the south and southeast, and susceptible of perfect drainage. A better location could hardly be desired for any penal institution. Architects Hutton and Ord, of Philadelphia, were employed to draw a plan and supervise its execution, and the contract for the construction of buildings and walls was awarded to Henry D. Livezey, of Doylestown, for \$72,000. The stone, which is an excellent variety of red sandstone, was obtained from a quarry a short distance in the rear of the jail yard. The expenso of introducing gas, by which the premises are lighted, was \$4,249, and of steam for heating, washing and cooking \$3,772. The entire cost of the prison was \$83,274, exclusive of a stone stable, which was needed and which was erected outside the wall in 1885 at an expense of \$1700, making the whole amount nearly \$85,000. January 3, 1885, eight months after it was commenced, the prison was finished and handed over to the commissioners, who transferred the keys in person to Sheriff Allen H. Heist.

It is built in the form of the letter T, the part represented by the horizontal bar being the front, in which is the main entrance. From this a corridor, 10 feet wide and 175 feet long, runs to the rear, and a similar corridor crosses it at right angles, each lined by tiers of cells. At the point of intersection spreads a rotunda, lighted by a dome 28 feet high. The officers standing in this central space occupy a commanding point of observation. The cells are vaulted rooms 8x18 feet and 12 feet high and are lighted from the corridor through the grated door and also by a slot in the top of the arch, 4 inches wide and three feet long, which is directly beneath a skylight. They are well ventilated and warmed in winter and have abundance of light for working or reading and are ordinarily occupied each by one person. They might be termed luxurious apartments in comparison with the dens and dungeons in which criminals were confined formerly and which prevail now in many parts of the world.

The Marquis de Lafayette, who joined the American army in the Revolution near Hartsville, in our county, when Washington was encamped there, some years after his return to Europe was imprisoned at Magdeburg by the enemies of liberty. The cell which he occupied for nearly a year was a space of only 3 feet by 4, excavated under the outer ramparts of the castle. It was so damp that the walls were covered with mould and no light entered except through a small opening in the door.

His detention at Olmutz for three years and a half more was in a cell of a similar character. The contrast between such apartments and those which are found in our jail is very great. The present efficient sheriff, J. Johnson Beans, Esq., remarked to me not long since that there was no punishment in living in the institution under his charge, except the confinement. With plenty of good plain food, light and air, warm in winter and cool in summer, and not obliged to work beyond their strength, the inmates pass their days in comfort. They only suffer

from deprivation of their liberty. If they are insubordinate a diet of bread and water and no communication with any one usually subdue the most refractory in a short time. Recourse is never had to humiliating, corporeal punishment.

Three objects should be sought in penal discipline, the maintenance of the supremacy of the law, the prevention of crime and the reformation of the criminal. While the first two are most important, the last should not be forgotten. It is extremely desirable that every convict should not only pay the penalty for his offence, as an example to others, but that such an impressiion should be made upon his mind and heart that his character will be improved; and that he will be less inclined to wrong doing when he emerges from the prison. With this most commendable aim religious services have been held in the present jail on Sunday afternoons, for a number of years past, under the leadership of George W. Hunt, a citizen of Doylestown.

They are conducted in the rotunda where seats are provided for all the inmates who choose to be present, and the attendance though voluntary is nearly universal. The singing is generally done by the strong, manly voices of the prisoners. The Bucks County Bible Society also has, by request, several times within a few years past gratuitously supplied the men with Testaments, which they could keep as their own property.

The annals of crime have been darkened by the perpetration of but few murders within the limits of our county. The first execution, probably the first in the State, took place in July, 1693, when Derrick Johnson, alias Closson, was hung in Falls township after a fair trial and after every effort possible had been made to secure his pardon or the commutation of his sentence. It is related that he was confined in the old jail at the falls, which was dilapidated and insecure, and it was hoped by the authorities that he would break out and escape; but as he failed to do this they were obliged to carry out the mandate of the law.

In 1831 Dr. William Chapman, of Bensalem, was poisoned by Mina, a Spaniard, who came to his house representing himself to be unfortunate, ingratiating himself with Mrs. Chapman and took the life of his benefactor. She is supposed to have been an accomplice, as after the death of her husband she married the foreigner. This, and other circumstances, fastened suspicion upon the couple and they were arrested and lodged in jail at Doylestown. After a long trial she was acquitted for lack of sufficient evidence and he was convicted and hung.

Executions were public in those days and on the 26th of June, 1832, he was taken in a dearborn wagon to a field on the almshouse property, attended by fourteen companies of volunteer infantry and six of cavalry from this and neighboring counties. No equal gathering of the stalwart yeomen and fair women of this region had ever been witnessed before. Perhaps the tragic scene, in which he suffered for his crime, may have had its proper effect upon the multitudes looking on; increasing their reverence for the law and their desire to walk in the ways of virtue and innocence.



In 1867 Albert Teuffel was hung in the jail yard in Doylestown for killing the captain of a canal boat along the Delaware river. His motives seem to have been robbery and revenge. Not far from the same period Armbruster was executed at the same place for taking the life of his wife, that he might gain possession of a house and lot, which she owned. Another man with the name of Blundy paid a like forfeit to justice, but at what time I am not informed. No one of the fair sex, so far as I have learned, has ever been within our prison walls pronounced guilty of murder. It is doubtful whether any others than these five just mentioned have been convicted of that crime within our bounds. The smallness of the number during the two hundred years that have elapsed since our county began to be much inhabited speaks well for the sobriety and self-restraint of our people. Various other offences have been committed as the years have rolled on, and our jail has probably always had more or less occupants varying in numbers up to 40 or 50. Would that we could say it was without a tenant; that Sheriff Beans reigned in solitary grandeur there, a king without subjects, and that there was no one among all our population, who deserved to be there.

From, *Intelligencer*  
*Doylestown Pa.*

Date, *Aug. 4<sup>th</sup> 1893,*

#### AN ANCIENT ARGILLITE QUARRY AND INDIAN VILLAGE SITE ON THE DELAWARE.

The way towards an answer of one of the vital questions that concerns the antiquity of man in Eastern North America was opened on May the 22d by the discovery of a series of nineteen ancient depressions, surrounded by masses of argillite chips (a quarry, in fact, with all the surface characteristics of Macungie, Vera Cruz and Durham in America, or Grimes' graves or Spiennes in Europe,) on the steep north slope of the hillside at Point Pleasant, Bucks county, Pennsylvania, on the right bank of Gaddis' run, about one-quarter of a mile above its mouth and half a mile from the well known Indian camp site at Lower Black's Eddy.

The study of the place has seemed of great importance, because

(a) These quarries, unlike the Jasper mines in the Delaware Valley, recently proved to be the work of modern Indians, are workings by some ancient people in argillite (metamorphosed slate with conchoidal fracture), the same stone with which numerous observers assert that Man living on the Lower Delaware, at the time of the melting of the great glacier, made his rude implements; because

(b) Granting that Glacial Man, obtaining his material either at this first out-crop of the rock on the right river bank above his habitat,\* or from erratic ice-born masses in the river bed, chipped argillite implements at Trenton seven to ten thousand years ago, we may here have reason to modify previously received views concerning his status of culture, as we learn whether the quarries were his work or the work of the comparatively modern Indian, of a stone chipper ignorant of the art of stone polishing (Paleolithic Man), or of a stone-chipper who could also polish stone (Neolithic Man), and because

(c) The quarries, if the work of the Neolithic Indian as known as to white men, may show us to what extent the use of argillite was continued into recent times, and whether, as at the Jasper quarries of Durham, Vera Cruz, Macungie and Saucon creek, the chipped refuse is scattered with "wasters" or blocked out blades resembling in form the supposed more ancient specimens of the same material found at Trenton. The ancient excavations notched in the slope, whose general angle was about thirty-five degrees, fronted a solid vein of argillite, here traversed and exposed by Gaddis' run, and twice tapped near at hand by modern curbstone quarries as the purest source of the material.

The surface rock through which the Delaware and the neighboring streams had cut their way, was part of what is known as the "New Red Sandstone," (popularly "red shale or slate," ) formed by processes of submarine hardening in Mesozoic time, when the whole seaboard, from the Lehigh hills to the Atlantic, lay under the shoaling waters of a marsh-fringed ocean.

Generally of a dull red color and straight fracture, this slaty crust extending over a large part of Bucks county, has been in several places burst through by igneous masses, resulting in the piling up of heaps of eruptive boulders, notably those known as "Jericho Hill," "Bowman's Hill" and "The Haycock."

At Gaddis' run and at other points, the contact of the molten rock from below—the Trap—has, it is said, (though geologists are not fully agreed upon the point), produced the argillite in question by "baking" the neighboring crust of shale and thereby changing its red color to a bluish black, and its straight fracture into a beautiful conchoid.†

We had noted that we were twenty-five miles above Trenton and, as stated above, at the only out-crop of true argillite on the right river bank above that place. The bed of Gaddis' run and the river shore below its mouth were thickly strewn with argillite blocks and water-worn boulders—a pathway, so to speak, littered with blade material extending from the ledge laid bare by the stream to the Indian camp half a mile distant on the river. While the significance of this fact had been obscured by chipped fragments from the modern quarries fallen into the stream, and the stone dressing that had accompanied the building of a dam, two bridges and a canal aqueduct, there could be little doubt that the inhabitants of the village often went no farther than a few hundred yards along these beaches for their material.

Ascending the hill and following the banks of "Hickory run," (a brook that crosses it to fall into the Delaware a few hundred yards below the mouth of Gad-



dis' run), I had found two years before a series of Indian camp sites, containing unmistakable traces of Neolithic occupancy, notably a workshop where several "turtlebacks" lay scattered, with chips and a few rude spear or knife points of argillite. At the latter spot, scarcely a mile from the quarries, a few Jasper flakes were also found, and quartzite pebble hammer-stones were frequent, but these, I learned from inhabitants, strewed the whole hill above and beyond the ancient mines.

A mill, destroyed by a freshet about 1860,<sup>†</sup> and a house and barn removed since that time had stood along Gaddis' run between the highest and lowest excavations. A turnpike road and a lane skirting the ravine had cut through the quarried area, destroying several of the pits. One of them had been cleaned out by a recent would-be discoverer of a mine of metal. Near the mill site a band of negro refugees had encamped since the war of the rebellion. But in spite of these facts the wild ravine slope, never cleared of its original timber, and too steep and rocky for cultivation, had not been seriously disturbed by civilization. No one had noticed the chips or guessed the meaning of the holes.

With this much preliminary information we were prepared to begin extensive digging at Shaft G, by the stream, and at Shaft A, 299 feet above it, where the old depression cut in the slope whose angle was about 40 degrees, ended abruptly against a solid ledge of argillite. Here, if anywhere, it seemed we might learn how, when and for what purpose the work, as to which history and tradition gave no clue, was done.

At both shafts the surface was bedded with artificial chips, over which in many places grass had not grown. At A, near a quartzite pebble showing no signs of

\*On Dark Hollow run (below New Hope) I found a small vein of it nearly two miles from the river. The blue slate in Pidcock's creek, on the south slope of Bowman's Hill, and at the Harvey and Van Hart quarries below Taylorsville, lacks the conchoidal fracture. During the present work a small outcrop of good argillite, with similar evidences of quarry work by ancient blade makers, was discovered on the left bank of Neshaminy creek, about half a mile above the mouth of Mill or Labaska creek. The Gaddis' run vein extends across the Delaware and is clearly exposed at Byram, on the left bank, opposite Point Pleasant.

†Sometimes, as on the top of the Gaddis' run hill, we seem to stand on the edge of the crater of an extinct volcano. On the one hand lie about a large masses of the erupted Trap (vulgarly called "Iron Stone" and "Mundock"), which frost and weather are seen changing from angular into globular masses by a curious scaling process that resembles the peeling of an onion. On the other, thickly mixed with the Trap boulders, lie softer fragments of blue baked shale or argillite. With the two we find unclassifiable specimens that seem neither one rock or the other, edges, possibly, of the crater, that tumbling into the hot outburst had been cooked over in the Trap padding.

‡Popularly called the "Thundergust Mill," because in the later days of its existence Gaddis' run, save after a storm, lacked the water to run it. Mr. Andrew Schwartz of Point Pleasant told me that when his father had bought "Thundergust Mill," about eighty years ago there had been water enough to run the wheel eight months in the year. Modern freshets in the ravine were in his memory much more sudden and higher, though the stream since the cutting off the Plumstead forests had diminished into a rivulet half hidden among stones.

battering, lay a rude lanceolate form of chipped argillite (a turtleback), while at G, bedded in the chips and close to another "turtleback," lay a well worn quartzite pebble hammer-stone with the familiar pecked sides. The surface chips at A and G, heavy and often showing the

bulb of percussion, were instantly distinguishable from the thin and knife-like ones afterwards noted at the riverside workshop sites. Several larger masses of argillite lay among them.

As the workmen went down the conditions continued the same at both places. Through the thick mass of chips, often scarcely mixed with earth at all, were scattered numerous quartzite pebbles well bruised by use as hammers, rudely made "turtlebacks" and bits of charcoal. Here and there were larger chipped masses, and underlying all at A on the solid ledge large disturbed blocks weighing several tons.

Having reached the bottom of the old digging at A at a depth of nine feet, we went onward until the sides of the confronting ledge showing no sign of work were laid bare. Then the bed of chips was cut through twenty or more feet to the right, until our Shaft A measured about 2148 cubic feet, with G at about 787, and until our gathered mass of information, reinforced by the evidence of eleven other pits and trenches—B, C, D, E, F, H, I, J, K, L and M—satisfied us that the ancient work was homogeneous throughout; that the hammer-stones and "turtlebacks" of the surface resembled those at all depths; that there were no layers indicating different epochs; that the same people who had left the peck-sided hammer-stone and "turtleback" resting on a heap of chips at G had done all the work.

The results of our excavation, continued for nine days, may be summed up under the following heads:

(I.)

#### DIGGING IMPLEMENTS.

There were no digging implements found, and none it seems would have been needed. Undoubtedly the whole hillside at the point of disturbance, as is still the case elsewhere, had been originally thickly covered with loose argillite fragments weathered from the ledge. These had been pulled out by hand, worked as required and thrown behind the workman. Judged by a line of pits sunk by us from A down to the stream, it seemed that there where an ancient explorer would first have encountered the pure ledge the quarrymen beginning at the bottom had worked up hill, leaving an excavated hollow ahead until the perpendicular ledge was reached. Here the last hole left, as was the case at A, would have been partly filled by downsliding earth and stones from above.\*

#### POTTERY.

A small glazed potsherd fell out of the first three or four loose shovels full at G; but occurring thus close to the surface, not one hundred yards from the site of the old barn, and unsupported by any further evidence of the sort, it could not fairly be counted with the refuse in which we found it. No other trace of glazed or Indian pottery was found anywhere in the quarries.

\*The surface conditions being the same at most of the pits it seemed fair to consider that some underground disturbance continued over an area of about three acres. To what depth, however, only the sinking of dozens of shafts could have proved. To presume that the disturbance indicated by all the nineteen depressions was the same as all those studied (i.e., fully thirty times their cubic contents,) and that therefore 14,000 cubic feet of stone was overturned and worked by the ancient quarrymen is only guessing.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]



From, *Intelligencer*

*Doylestown Pa.*

Date, *Sept. 5<sup>th</sup> 1893.*

### THE HAUPT FAMILY.

Read at the Meeting of the Buckwampun Historical and Literary Association, held at the Ringing Rocks, Near Bridgeton, Pa., June 10, 1893, by Myra Brodt, of Springtown.

From the meagre records we have been able to obtain, we learn John Henry Sebastian Haupt, the Palatinate founder of the Haupt family, came to America, from Germany, in the year 1738. He crossed the ocean at the same time the ancestors of the Christines did. They settled on the highlands, now known as Swope Hill, while he preferred the more fertile valley land. They thought him very silly to live in the valley, but the lowlands made him wealthy. The first knowledge we have of his abiding place, he lived on what was long known as the Strawsnyder tract. On this was an old family burial ground, such as may still be seen on some of the old farms that were purchased direct from the government when churches were few and cemeteries a thing unknown in this country. Here he was buried, and his body rested till the present Durham cemetery was laid out and plots offered for sale. One was purchased, when the bodies lying in the burial ground on the farm were all removed to Durham cemetery, where they now rest.

From the old family Bible now in possession of Mrs. Mellie Witte Haupt, a great granddaughter of the Palatinate, we learn John Haupt was born 1767. From the same source we learn that in 1792 he married Miss Elizabeth Younken. The first tradition we have of his dwelling was that under the same roof with the old mill, the ruins of which are now standing almost opposite the house now occupied by William F. Witte. The old mill and dwelling were probably built in the middle of the last century, possibly earlier, as we have no record or tradition to inform us. In this old house his children, eight in number, were all born, except Mrs. Witte, the mother of William F. Witte, who was born in the house now standing. This house was built sometime in the year 1790. It is related of the old gentleman, while preparing to build the present house one bright moonlight night, being unable to sleep, he arose from his bed and worked sometime, digging out the earth preparing to lay the foundation for his new house.

He owned a great number of acres of land, his land at one time extending from the head of the Durham creek, at the Springtown bridge, to and including the farm on which Mr. Weidner now lives, a distance of about three miles, Mr. Weidner being a great great grandson of the Palatinate. The old gentleman was opposed to having any trees cut on his land, unless especially needed for building. Such a thing as clearing the timber away to have the land for farming purposes he would never allow. He had but little respect for any one who traveled very far, either for pleasure or to see friends who lived any great distance away. Two of his sons incurred his undying enmity by traveling. One went South and the other West, and he never forgave them. He died in 1851 and was buried in a vault on his own property, constructed under his own supervision. The stone to mark his resting place, as well as the vault, was prepared before his death and inscribed with his name and date of his birth, leaving a place for the date of his death. This was erected on top of the vault before his death. His body as well as the stone was removed to the Durham cemetery, where it now rests. His children were the following:

John, born in the year 1795, died in 1885; Abraham, born in the year 1799, died in 1871; Henry, born in the year 1794, died in 1864; Elizabeth, born in the year 1800, died in 1880; Sarah, born in the year 1807, died in 1863; Benjamin Franklin, born in the year 1809, died in 1838; Mary Ann, born in the year 1816, died in 1876.

During the life of the elder Mr. Haupt the house and barn where Elias Cawley now resides, the house and barn where George Stuckert now lives, house and barn where Titus Shrantz lives and where Mr. Weidner lives, as well as the house and barn on the old homestead, were all built under his supervision and after one plan. They are all substantial structures of stone, both house and barn, and served the double purpose of saving wood and getting rid of stone. Abraham married a Miss Long and became the father of three children, one son and two daughters.

One daughter married George Stuckert, and now lives on a part of the original Haupt estate, which came to her by inheritance. The other married Steward Hibler, who came from near the Delaware Water Gap. She has long since passed away, leaving two daughters. The son of Abraham married a Miss Martin, of Philadelphia. He left one son, now living in Philadelphia, who is the sole male descendant bearing the name of Haupt. William Haupt, the son of Abraham, died in service during the Rebellion. His body and also that of his wife now repose in Durham cemetery. Catharine married David Riegel, a wealthy farmer of Saucon township, Northampton county, and moved with her husband to his farm, in his native township, where they resided during their lives. The fruit of this union was one daughter, Mrs. Weidner, who is now a widow and still survives. Mary Ann married Mr. Witte, of Fort Washington, and moved with her husband to his home where they resided during their lives. Two daughters and one son survive them. Sarah married James Frey, of Allentown, and lived in that city with her husband. She left no heirs. John, Henry,



Benjamin, and Elizabeth never married. The wife of the senior Haupt died in 1831, aged 60 years. He died in the year 1851, aged 84 years. In making some repairs to the mill now standing on the old homestead, Frederick Young was so badly injured that he died four days afterward. He was a cousin to Mrs. Haupt, and the father of Charles Youngkin, now living at Stony Point.

After the death of Mr. Haupt his children divided the land to suit themselves. John and Elizabeth continued to live on the home place. Henry lived sometimes with them, sometimes with his farmer. Abraham's wife being dead he also made his home with his farmer till his health failed, when he went to the home of his daughter, Jenny Stuckert, then residing at Allentown, where he died. Henry Haupt built the house and barn where William Trauger now resides. This house is also built of stone. Some time about the year 1849, on the site where the Keystone Handle Works now stand, he erected a saw mill, machinery for cleaning clover seed and burrs for grinding paint, the mine from which the paint was dug, lying just below his own land. Large quantities of paint were ground and shipped for sometime.

Somewhere about 1863, or '64 he built an addition to the sawmill, and the handle works were moved from Portland, Northampton county, to his place. In 1887, on the 30th of March, these buildings were destroyed by fire. He also commenced the erection of a house on the same premises. In it were two rooms he designed to occupy himself. There was a desk in an inner wall with numerous small drawers, the fronts all finished in solid walnut, and was elaborately finished throughout. The rooms had numerous closets and clothes presses in the walls, but some ideas were rather peculiar. Several floors were of stout oak plank, but unplained. He had intended an outside door on every floor, even the third story. Under every window was a drawer, also of stout oak plank. There was also a closet in the wall on the outside, where a portico sheltered the door on the north side.

It was said he had a surveyor there with his compass, that the four corners of the house should represent the points of the compass, but death interfered with his plans and he passed quietly away at the old homestead, before the house was finished.

Abraham and Henry Haupt had at one time established a starch manufactory at Kintnersville, and the starch was manufactured from wheat. John Haupt was a skillful mill-wright, and an inventor of and patentee of several valuable improvements to steam engines. We find letters patent were granted him for improved condensing steam engine, improvement in steam condensers, condenser for marine engines, improvement in steam generators, improvement in jet condenser for steam engines, improvement in condensing apparatus for steam engines, improvement in surface condenser or refrigerators for marine steam engines. Letters on the above patents extended from the year 1869 until the year 1875. As the only inventor in upper Bucks, who succeeded in having his inventions patented, Springfield was justly proud of him.

Henry Haupt sold a portion of his land to Aaron Sterner, who erected a sub-

stantial stone house on it, in which he now resides. After the death of Henry Haupt, which occurred at the old homestead, his land was sold by administrators. He left no will. William Trauger bought a portion of it and the Brodts a portion. After the death of Abraham Haupt his farm was sold to Absalom Cawley, who had lived on it a number of years before Absalom's death.

After the death of Absalom Cawley David Hess bought some of it and Cawley's two sons, Elias and John, divided the balance between them. Mrs. Sarah Frey left her farm by will to her husband, James Frey. After his death it was sold, and is now owned by Mrs. Samuel Sames, a sister of Frey's. Benjamin F. Haupt died in Wabash county, Illinois, while visiting relatives there. He died before his father. John Haupt outlived all of the family. He and his sister dwelt in the greatest harmony. She always kept her horse and carriage, and whenever she and her brother rode out together she always drove. He had built a barn and wagon shed for the special accommodation of her horse and carriage, and in the wagon shed he constructed a turn-table that she might easily turn her carriage around if she wished to gear up the horse herself. I have heard it related that she spoke to him about some needed repairs about the buildings. To the repairs he readily consented, but when she requested permission to have the old-fashioned chairboards removed he hesitated, but finally consented.

He afterward told his brother Abraham of a good joke: "That as soon as she won his consent she did not give him time to change his mind, but quickly left the house and soon returned with a grubbing hoe, and with her own hands removed some of the boards, fearing he might recall his promise." While in the South he purchased a large tract of land in Louisiana. A few years afterward the Civil War broke out and he supposed the land would be confiscated, but when peace again reigned over our country he disposed of his land to a good advantage. After the death of his sister, Miss Elizabeth, William F. Witte with his family moved there to care for his comfort in his declining years. At his death, which occurred in 1885, he left a large estate in lands and money by will to his relatives. To the Durham cemetery he left a certain amount to be invested as a perpetual fund to keep the Haupt burial plot in order, and to William F. Witte and his sisters he left the homestead. The first picnic ever held in this part of the country was held in what was then primeval forest on a part of the Haupt estate in a part of the forest that extended from somewhere near where Aaron Sterner now lives to the residence of Rev. O. H. Melchor. William F. Witte and his eldest sister, then only children, assisted by Miss Elizabeth Haupt, planned and held the picnic, to which the people of the surrounding country were invited. It was an event spoken of for years.



From, *Intelligencer*  
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Date, *Aug. 14<sup>th</sup> 1893,*

## AN ANCIENT ARGILLITE QUARRY AND AN INDIAN VILLAGE SITE ON THE DELAWARE.

BY H. C. MERCER.

### FIRE SITES.

We came upon four masses of charcoal and ashes about two inches thick and eighteen in diameter; in Shaft A, at depths of eighteen inches, three feet and seven feet respectively, and in Shaft G, at a depth of one foot, but not one of these fire sites, save in its position, revealed the slightest trace of human intervention.

M. Cornet found a fire site with potsherds deep down in the refuse at the Spiennes quarry in Belgium; Canon Greenwell found a hearth in one of the pits at Grimes' Graves, Suffolk, England; Mr. Holmes found the novaculite ledge at the ancient quarry in Garland county, Arkansas, distinctly splintered by fires, and I saw Jasper blocks arranged in an oven-like cavity at the ancient Jasper mine at Macungie, Lehigh county, Pa., for the purpose of fracturing or coloring the stone by fire, but here the condition of the fire places offered no suggestion of their use.

Bits of charcoal lay scattered through the chipped mass, but not thickly, as in the Jasper mines.\* They might easily have worked down from the fire places observed and others that had doubtless been overturned in the moving of the blocks. If fire had been continually used in any unsuspected part of the mining process, the charcoal would have been more frequent. If heat had been employed to shiver large masses of stone, then the latter would have shown signs of scorching, or sometimes have lain diagonally above or against the fire sites, as in one instance at Macungie. But such was never the case.

In my experience heating an argillite block in an open fire made it much more easy to break, but seemed to coarsen the grain. Though I made several "turtle-backs" of the baked stone that equalled my efforts with the unbaked, I noticed a difference, and question whether the former would have worked with the thin blades afterwards found at the Indian camp sites.

Among the refuse lay plenty of good fragments of a size easily breakable with hammerstones, without needing to resort to large intractable masses where fire would have helped. But the fact that only one fire site was at a depth where these heavy blocks were common, and the fact that some of the stones were pecked

on their sides as if to split, added sufficiently to the burden of proof that heat was not employed to break them, and left the reasonable inference that the fires had been built to warm the quarrymen at what must have been cold work in winter.

### BONES.

In A a small bone was found at a depth of about three feet, and in G another at a depth of one and a-half feet. Neither have yet been identified. Both lay near cavities inhabited by ground squirrels and large enough for the entrance of foxes and other animals, and therefore can, until identification, have little significance.

### LARGE WORKED MASSES.

As before remarked, the loose masses of argillite grew larger as we went deeper. Why so many of them still easily breakable with hammer-stones, and containing many cubic feet of blade material, had been passed over, remained an unsolved problem to the last.

At A, directly on an upper step of the ledge, at a depth of 5½ feet, lay a block weighing about 150 pounds, deeply marked with a line of peckings on its side, on a plane that would have split it with the grain. There were four smaller pieces at depths of one, five and three feet, weighing about seventy pounds apiece, perceptibly nicked near their fractured sides, as if the marks had been made in splitting them. But a much larger block, weighing several tons, had been indented at several points on its side in a different manner. Besides several deep scratches, there was what might have been called a heavy scrape, as if in managing the block with heavy wooden levers (like those found at Macungie;) a hard stone had been ground upon at the point of leverage or under the mass.

That these large blocks had been moved from their original positions, either by undermining, when they would have fallen downward, or by trees used as levers, was again proved by a still heavier mass lying at a depth of seven feet on the level ledge at A, for a number of chips lay exactly under it. As remarked before, fire had evidently not been used, either to break these formidable masses or to cut into the solid ledge below them.

### FLAKES.

It is these that first catch the eye at the quarries. Save in Shaft A, close to the ledge, where they were sometimes interbedded with layers of clay, they form, as before mentioned, a dense mass almost free of soil.

The average flake weighed three to six ounces; one of the largest eight pounds. In Shaft A there were two bands of finer chips about one-eighth of an inch in diameter, yet possessing the same character and proportion. Many showed the bulb of percussion, and all were thick for their length, and in sharp distinction to the very thin flat ones and long knife-like scales afterward excavated at two Indian riverside flaking sites. However these latter flakes were produced, the quarry chips were evidently made by blows. I had no trouble in reproducing them on the spot with the pebble hammers found, but a careful and continual comparison of them with the Indian flaking site forced on me a full realization of the fact that the quarry and Indian workshop exempli-



and processes of argillite blade making, distinct, special, and each an art in itself. Whatever the method of the workshop—and experiment failed to explain it—that of the quarry was blade chipping by percussion with stone hammers.

#### HAMMERSTONES.

All the 174 hammerstones found were water-worn pebbles, generally slightly modified by pounding. Nearly all were of quartzite, or trap, a dozen or more of white quartz and hard sandstone. Careful search might have discovered a few like them among the slate and argillite fragments in the stream bed near at hand, but as millions scattered the river beaches half a mile away, it was necessary to conclude that most of the quarry specimens had been brought thence. None were regularly discoidal like many of the hammerstones at the Jasper quarries of Durham and Macungie, nearly all being so irregular in shape as almost to argue that round pebbles, easily enough found if wanted, had been eschewed by the hammer gatherers.

The largest hammer discovered weighed 4 pounds 13½ ounces, the smallest 1½ ounces, and the whole series seemed divisible according to size and weight into four groups: (a) 8 specimens, averaging 4½ pounds in weight; (b) 19, averaging 2 pounds 3 ounces; (c) 126, averaging 18 ounces, and (d) 21, averaging 3 ounces. The group of 21 little ones showed no signs of use, yet being of the smallest size, the light blows struck by them would have availed least to abrad their tough sides. There was no mark of a groove or trace of hafting on any one of

\*The ancient Jasper mines referred to in this paper are those discovered by Mr. Charles Laubach, Mr. A. F. Berlin and myself, in 1891-92, at Durham, Limeport, Saucon creek, Vera Cruz, Macungie, Long Swamp, F.uerstelsburg and Leimbach's Mills, in Bucks, Lehigh and Berks counties, Pennsylvania, and examined by me for the University of Pennsylvania last October. No account of the work has yet been published.

the whole series, but that they had been used to make the "Turtlebacks" there could be no question. The frequent occurrence of beds of chips in which they and the latter lay within a few inches of each other, proved it beyond a doubt.

In carefully gathering and recording every pebble seen, a noteworthy discovery was made. Three of them had the familiar pitted hollows upon their sides.

I have as yet heard of no pitted hammerstone found beneath the surface, at any ancient American quarry, and fail thus far to see how they could have been connected with the work done at any of the similar sites examined by me. Yet here were three distinctly associated with what appeared to be solely a process of flaking by percussion.

If these specimens had played some unsuspected part in the work, then we should have found more of them; but 3 out of 174 is so small a proportion as to rule them out of such consideration, and force us to believe that they were brought there after having served their purpose elsewhere.

Here, then, was a clue. The quarryman had dropped something to tell whence and what he was, and the state of culture represented by the quarries was that denoted by the pitted hammers.

When, however, we ask what was the cultural significance of the pitted stone hammer, we ask a question, whose study,

just begun, carries us from one end of the world to the other, and backward from the Dawn of History far—no one yet knows how far—into prehistoric time.

In America we can, however, begin by saying that the implement is a universal token of the past presence of the Indian. Every village site in the Delaware and Susquehanna valleys that I have examined has been only less plentifully supplied with its patterns, than with the unpitted bruised pebbles mentioned above. Exactly what was its use in North America had been greatly a matter of inference until a few years ago Mr. J. D. McGuire, of Baltimore, discarding all theories of "paint mortar," and "nut crackers," produced with it in diorite and other hard rocks several finely pecked axes that would have done credit to the workmanship of an Indian. As a battering tool, held as he held it by the pits between thumb and second finger, so as to strike about 200 springing blows to the minute, he argues with great force (The Stone Hammer and Its Various Uses. American Anthropologist, November, 1891.) that by its aid all carved specimens of the Stone Age throughout the world were fashioned.\*

But Caleb Lyon (Bulletin N. Y. Ethnological Soc., Vol. I, p. 39.) saw Shasta Indians in California, about 1860, splitting obsidian pebbles for arrowhead making on stone anvils of compact slate held on their knees, as Schoolcraft (Indian Tribes, Vol. III, p. 467.) saw Jasper lumps shivered for flakes on similarly held basal stones. And it seems probable from a series of sixty-seven "pitted hammers" collected by me from fifteen campsites in the Delaware Valley, that some of these scored pebbles may have been so used as "anvils," and thus have formed part of one of the many arrowhead making processes.

\*See also for his recent very interesting argument that man was a stone batterer and polisher (Neolithic) before he became a stone chipper, and that the "Paleolithic" status of culture as now understood never existed. The American Anthropologist for July, 1893

†On the Delaware, at Gallows run, Glimer's Island, Upper Black's Eddy, Lower Black's Eddy, and at Paul's Valley, North Branch; Roberts farm (Neshaminy), Grame Park, Dark Hollow, Paua ussieg, Cook's run (Neshaminy), Bartleman farm (Hickory run), Magill farm (Carversville), Mill creek (Southampton). Fifteen are pitted only on one side, of which four show no signs of use as hammers. Two are little rectangular pieces of soft shale, of which one has two pits on adjoining sides. Five show signs of rubbing on the periphery. One is a flat tablet seven inches long and one inch thick (which might have done as one of the basal stones set in a notched tree for large blade flaking by pressure, mentioned by Clement L. Webster (Smithson. Rept., 1887, Part I). Six are elongated about three times their diameter. If an arrowhead maker wanting fresh flakes had set one of his hammers on his knee and splintered a lump of Jasper set upon it, with another hammer, experience showed me that he would have produced the erratic dents and scarrings, rather than distinct pits, that characterize most of the specimens. Yet several so pecked seemed on trial too light to use as anvils. On the other hand the scarrings, however irregular, were in all cases of decided assistance in holding the stones by Mr. McGuire's method, with thumb in one pit, second finger in or against the other, and index finger lightly resting on the periphery. In this way I made an axe groove around a hard sandstone pebble in about an hour, striking about 90 blows to the minute. Grasping the hammer with the whole hand, or holding the index finger in a pit, strained certain muscles below the elbow and took the very effective rebound out of the blows.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]



From:

*Intelligencer**Doylestown Pa.*Date, *Aug. 16* 1893,

# AN ANCIENT ARGILLITE QUARRY AND AN INDIAN VILLAGE SITE ON THE DELAWARE.

BY H. C. MERCER.

That they involved some more elaborate operation than that denoted by mere pebbles with bruised edges, is manifest. At all events it is high time, in view of the immense number of stone hammers whose use has been explained at quarries in the last two years, that battered pebbles which are pitted, and those which are not pitted, should be kept distinct and their difference carefully marked as of important archaeological bearing in future discoveries.

If Mr. McGuire is right they must be regarded wherever found as proofs of Neolithic culture. As he says, Dr. Schliemann found these so-called "corn-bruiseurs," fifty-two feet down in the lower layers at Troy. They have been dredged out of the mud at the Swiss Lake Dwellings, and exhumed from English Barrows. Messrs. Lartet and Christy found them in the French Paleolithic caves (covering, by De Mortillet's classification, at least two epochs); of Les Eyzies, La Madeleine, Gorge d'Enfer and Laugerie Basse,\* so that the tool has seemed to range back through the subdivisions of Neolithic into Paleolithic time, and to stand for many grades of culture rather than one.

But if following European classification we go a step in evolution below the Cave Man, to the Man of the River Drift, it must be remembered that no pitted hammer-stone is yet known to have been discovered among his remains. No mention is made of any *percuteur* pitted or unpitted from the French gravels at Abbeville or Chelles, by M. Gabriel de Mortillet (Le Préhistorique, Paris, 1885), M. A. Bertrand (La Gaule avant les Gaulois, Paris, 1891), or M. Salmon Reinach (Antiquités Nationales, Firmin Didot, Paris). I could see or hear of no hammer-stones of any kind from the English Drift at the British Museum, and at Abbeville I heard that little attention had been paid in France to their discovery in the gravels. There, though M. du Mesnil described finding several, which I did not see, in the middle and upper beds, they were not pitted. Whatever the full meaning of the pitted tool, the Quarternary Hunter of the Somme and Ouse has not yet I believe been proved to have known its use.

Here, then, is evidence, which would disincline us to suppose the quarries at Gaddis run the work of possible Glacial Men from the Trenton beaches. For here we find in the quarryman's workshop tools which neither the alleged Trenton

Man, or his European prototype, have thus far been suspected of making, and which, old as they may be in type, are known to have been included in the outfit of the Modern North American Indian.

## "TURTLEBACKS."

Three hundred and twelve leaf-shaped chipped forms of argillite, for which the indefinite "Turtleback" seems a good name, present us in the main with the same problem offered by the similar objects at the Jasper quarries. About a hundred more ends and points of broken specimens form our complete stock of blade evidence. The material, though softer than Jasper, is far more regular and easily worked. Had it been Jasper its connection with the modern Indian might have been inferred from the work done at other Jasper quarries, but being the same stone used by the alleged Paleolithic Man of Trenton, it is necessary to again make sure of our ground, so that we are excusable in restating some of the well-known points of quarry evidence in general, noting

(a) That the "Turtlebacks," none of which show signs of use on their edges, can not have been wanted by their makers, or they would not have been left to the extent of one to about every bushel of chips. Some may have been unintentionally lost (like two finished blades at the camp workshop to be described), but the great majority must have been "wasters" or "rejects" cast aside in the process of the work.

(b) In their present state they are as much "finished" as the Trenton specimens. Therefore, if the latter are tools, the quarrymen were not making *such tools* at the quarry, for if they had been they would have wanted them, and if they had wanted them they would not have left them.

(c) Not a single one of the thinned down blades, broken or whole, so sparsely found at Piney Branch, not a trace of one of the broad argillite cache blades, so common at the Delaware Indian sites, was met with in all the tons of refuse overturned.

Considering these facts, while it was evident that the quarries could not be connected with a Paleolithic race living seven thousand years ago at Trenton, it remained a question whether they could, after all, be fairly referred to the Geologically Modern Indian, whose village site lay but half a mile away.

It was plain that the chipped forms represented an effort, which effort was first the production of something good enough to take away. The secret of what that something was was in our hands, in the chips, in the points, in the "Turtlebacks" themselves, for there was nothing else to tell the tale.

Carefully re-examining these latter we noticed, first, that after all they were not like the Trenton specimens; second, that strange as it might seem they did not fairly resemble the numerous others found by me in neighboring Indian village sites, with which I at once compared them. Considered altogether, they were certainly a class by themselves. Thinner, as a rule, than all other argillite specimens that I had seen, and made with far fewer blows, the chippings had a broad, regular look, and ran nearly across the full surfaces. Generally they formed but four facets on a side (to the average six or seven of the village site



specimens); often they showed but three, and sometimes only two.

Evidently they had been made with great skill, and while I had no trouble in reproducing the village site specimens, these defied my efforts. In trying to copy them, however, I considered my labor rewarded in finding to my satisfaction that much of their "knack" was in a knowledge of the grain of the stone. The neighboring curbstone cutters knew and showed me that the cleavage plane of the rock was straight and at right angles to the seam breaks; that along this plane it splits, breaks or flakes easiest, and that while good flaking may be done at angles ranging away from this plane to nearly forty-five degrees, but no farther, the nearer the direction of the blows approaches it the better.

To illustrate this, imagine a mass of argillite shaped like a thin brick. Place it broadside down on a table and let the grain run parallel with the table top. Lifting off the block strike the right hand lower edges inward blows below the upper corner, and you can knock off flakes that run diagonally half across the under side. Then turn the block upside down and repeat the operation on the other side. The result is an elongated mass, lozenge-shaped in section, with two sides showing the conchoids of your chipping and two sides showing the level planes of the natural cleavage. But it is the position of these two latter planes from which the longest possible flakes can be obtained, that makes your "turtleback" (if you have rounded the corners without breaking it or spoiling them,) the thing best fitted, it would seem, to work down into a broad, thin blade. That end, we believe, was best attainable by chipping on the planes referred to till the desired thickness was reached.

By a little thought it will be seen that

\*La Madeleine (Magdalenian). Gorge d'Enfer (Solutrian). Langerie Basée (Magdalenian).

any other direction of the grain in your block prevents the possibility of these opposing planes and decreases the chances of further flaking. So would a false blow in forming the side facets, or rounding the ends, and when we find that nearly all our "Turtlebacks" have failed in these conditions of supposed desirability, we have a plausible hypothesis to explain why they were cast aside.

It is, therefore, the very rare specimens which may be supposed to fulfil these conditions and which we believe were not rejected, but rather lost unintentionally, that particularly interest us. They, if we can find them, will represent the full extent of the quarry work.

Let us look for them, then, as Mr. Holmes looked for like specimens at Piney Branch, among the fractured ends and points, hoping there to get a blade broken by its maker after it had to some extent passed the "reject" stage.

It is well for our hypothesis that in eighteen of the points the broadest and flattest planes, sometimes running the whole length of the specimen, as if struck at a single blow, and so inferably the cleavage planes (or a near approach to them,) lie diagonally opposite each other; and when we examine the outer edges we notice, first, that all are slightly nipped at certain places as if struck very light blows with a small pebble; and second, that these nippings regularly occur at the outer edge of the broadest, flattest planes, but *always on the side opposite to them.*

Here, then, besides their shape, is a clue to the specimens themselves, indicating that further work was to be done on them, for had the nippings been made simply to symmetrically outline the "Turtlebacks," they would sometimes have been struck on the side of the planes; but being, wherever obviously intentional, always opposite to them, I regarded them as adapted to subsequent flaking. Granted that the planes were the main surfaces for flaking, had the nippings been on their side they must needs have hindered the flakers' operation, whether the method used were pressure, or percussion by bone or stone, now they would enable the antler punch or the hammer to "bite," as the Flint Knappers of Brandon say. In other words, to take deep hold of the edge and send off long flakes.

Three of the "Turtlebacks" seemed to fulfil the conditions of the good points, and may therefore have been lost rather than cast aside. Some showed rottenness on their corners; some ragged flaking; some were disproportionately thin in places; some had the clumsy intractable "hump" more common among the Jasper specimens. But admitting the possibility of the above observations on the method probably employed, it was not hard to see why most of them had been cast aside.

At all events the quarryman's object was to block out a blade and produce a "Turtleback" more symmetrical than the Trenton forms and superior to anything of that well-known category afterwards found at the neighboring camp site. When, with the fewest possible skilled blows he had done so, and had fashioned an inchoate leaf shaped form, well adapted for the flaking that was to reduce it to its final character, his work at the quarry ended.

Where the chosen "blanks" were to go, what was to become of them elsewhere, we had yet to learn.

Having gathered these results, the quarries had nothing further to tell us. Our work persistently continued in the hope of some sensational or clinching discovery, simply repeated old evidence and added nothing new. Yet by it we had come to realize what may be summed up as follows:

(a) That the presence of three pitted hammers associated the work with a Neolithic people, rather than the alleged Drift Men of Trenton.

(b) That the mere presence of the "Turtlebacks" again disconnected it with any people like the Drift Men, who, if they had made the blades, would have wanted to use them as finished implements, and so would not have left them.

(c) That though seeming to belong to a special class the shape and general appearance of the "Turtlebacks" allies them with work known to have been done by Modern Indians.

(d) That the position of the quarries seems again to closely connect them with the Indian, rather than any other possible race, lying as they do, as remarked before, on what might be called a pathway littered with Indian blade material leading directly from the ancient mines to an Indian village only half a mile away.

(e) That, granting their connection with Indians, the absence of a growth of forest mould over the workings, argues against their great age.



Taking a last look at the bare chip heaps and pits unfilled with detritus on the steep hillside, and reasonably doubting whether years numbered by the thousand could have rolled over them, I turned away to the suggestive topography of the spot, and the interesting features of the point next to be studied.

\*It has been objected that it is not fair to regard broken ends as types of finished work, since, if finished, the blades would not have needed the extra blow which broke them. But at the Indian flaking site afterward examined we gathered eight fragments of thin blades which though larger than the two perfect ones found, were equally finished.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

From, *Intelligencer*  
*Daylestown Pa.*  
 Date, *Sept. 9<sup>th</sup> 1893.*

### THE EDEN OF THE KEYSTONE STATE.

To the Editor of the *Intelligencer*:

No thinking man can view the landscape and consider the location of Bucks county without being forced to the conclusion that she is, by nature, the Eden of the Keystone State. William Penn, a man eminently fitted to judge, could not overlook the natural superiority of soil, climate and geography of Pennsylvania in general and of Bucks county in particular. And in the location of Philadelphia he gives ample evidence of his ability to concentrate nature's grand gift to coming generations. Not only did he found his home and plant his city, but he successfully paved the way to enduring peace with the aborigines, as well by example as by precept to both races. And in thus doing for future generations (although we lament his departure to his mother country) we cannot withhold our thanks nor lose sight of his example in laying the foundation, both civil and moral, for an empire whose bounds fill a continent and whose genius never fails to grow. Look back 200 years, and what do we see? The spirit of freedom, tempered with peace, has passed west, until the Pacific and the Atlantic grasp hands with space annihilated as never before, and all the world bows humbly to the spectacle.

We are proud of our Washington, our Jefferson and our Lincoln; but we must not forget, in our admiration of them, that Penn, in his application of peace principles, made it possible for the others to shine and for us to enjoy. The Red man, made *more red*, instead of *more white*, could have prevented all. Then let us not forget Penn and his manor. I hold that there is but one "*Penn's Manor*." Nature has formed no other. She stands alone with more of natural beauty and natural excellence, all things considered, than South, West or North, great and grand as they all are. I am told that the Bonaparte's once wanted to

buy Turkey hill, a centre spot of conspicuous elevation in its midst. Let us look for a moment at Turkey hill. What comprises Penn's Manor is of circular form on what we might call three sides, embracing about 8000 acres. On the straight or western side is the railroad from Morrisville to Bristol. Set one foot of a compass on the centre of Turkey hill, and set the other foot in the river below the falls at Trenton, and then describe the circle from that point and it would follow the river around to Penn's home, describing a circle of about four miles in diameter, embracing within that circle a landscape of rural beauty that is hard to excel. Turkey hill is a mere mound, thickly covered with light but abundant timber, free from stone and easy of access from all sides, underlaid at some depth with a deposit of fine clay and covered with a fine light soil adapted to the growth of any crop, and especially sweet potatoes and watermelons.

It contains more of beauty and incipient grandeur and excellence than any spot within my knowledge, and I have looked casually over about half the States we are so proud of. And now, Mr. Editor, allow me to say in all candor, I am dumtounded when I look upon all this natural magnificence, with its early and distinguished settlement, its historical association with such names as Penn, Morris and Moreau, in addition to a galaxy of names and characters eminent in church and state, to be obliged to confess that Bucks county is the slowest growing county of all the sixty-four of the State, and all this with a river meeting tide at this point after skirting our county near 50 miles with fall enough to excel the Merrimac or any other stream in America. Location, climate and soil considered, and immediately below and in sight of this paradise of Penn's Manor we meet water that can float the light but efficient commerce of the world; and yet I am compelled to say that not the buzz of a spindle nor the sound of a hammer in Pennsylvania is heard in the 200 miles from its source. Bucks county is not dead, but asleep, and when she wakes up "all over" great things may be looked for. Two centuries with their ripening processes must yield wonders. Nature makes no mistakes in her purposes; extremes are sure to follow each other. Penn laid the foundations in quiet but substantial greatness. His location in latitude is unequaled; in longitude time has proven his wisdom.

The extreme eastern end of the great State that so proudly bears his and his wife's name, when viewed from the standpoint of to-day, was eminently prophetic, the point to which all the grand products of the Keystone State naturally tends. The concentration of commerce, mining, manufacturing and agriculture, needs time, thought and care to meet the demands that must grow out of such conditions, the spirit of progress in her searching process must eventually return laden with bounties incalculable. It think it no great stretch of the imagination, in view of the grand historical associations that cluster around the location, and in view of the princely accumulations of her children, in both mind and means, underlaid as it is by substantial and ever-enduring principles, (a natural outgrowth of Penn's Treaty), to see in the near future, the grand river Delaware supplying the fu-



ture millions of his great city with the life-giving beverage she so greatly needs, as well as furnishing a power that will surpass the Merrimac in productive magnificence, doubling and quadrupling our population, thus greatly increasing the value and dignity of the first and best of all occupations. Not the least among the signs pointing that way is the George School, with the promise of substantial and not merely ornamental accomplishment, based as it is, in the principles of Penn, and promising to further the grand idea of universal and not special education.

The Delaware will not always flow from its source to tide unused, but after Philadelphia slakes her thirst from its pure flow to the Water Gap, we will utilize the influx of the various streams that flow in from both sides, over a fall of 200 feet in 20 dams of 10 feet each, not lessening the amount in volume, but increasing its purity and terminating at tide in electric power, that will send (at little cost of time or money) the thousands of lives now sweltering in cramped, but expensive habitations improperly (called homes) into that rural and lovely paradise of green grass and fresh air, (thus fulfilling the prediction of one that done so little for its consummation) by spreading out the great cities to bleach and purify, morally as well as materially, thus blessing humanity, as Deity clearly intended, (else why the natural provision) so plainly visible. And now Mr. Editor, you will excuse me if I indulge in a further draft of the imagination and present to you, and through you a new name for Turkey hill, not that I am at all averse to Turkey, but that my veneration for Penn and his principles induces the thought and hereafter call it Penn's Mound (the name of Park is too common to associate with such greatness). Penn's Mound will some day redem the indignity imposed on his name in refusing to immortalize his immediate home by State purchase, by presenting to the future an emblem of his virtues and tastes by the erection of an observatory with the necessary surroundings of carriage drives and substantial holsteries, commensurate with the wants of civilization, but consonant with the character of its founder, and a monument to his virtues, thus making partial amend for 200 years of heartless neglect, and prove the gratitude of those so fortunate in their unlooked-for inheritance, thus proving the maxim of tardy returns, and placing honor where honor belongs,

and showing that bread cast upon the waters of time will eventually return to bless and prove the truth and value of sacrifice.

D. H. T.

From, *Intelligencer*  
Doylestown Pa.  
Date, *Sept. 15, 1893.*

#### NOTES TAKEN AT RANDOM

Read at the Meeting of the Bucks County Historical Society, Held at Menlo Park, Perkasie, July 18, 1893, by Henry C. Mercer, of Doylestown.

#### THE SUNBONNET.

Yet as this rough pen drawing marks no continuous streams or hills, it can hardly, without further corroboration, be used as proof of more unjust dealing than took place at the "walk," which it would if the walkers started about a mile too far to the north.

The trouble is that the old deeds, besides getting the directions by the compass wrong, neither give distances along the line, nor explain where Mackeerickkiton, its starting point on the Delaware was, and if it had not been for John Watson, surveyor of Bucks county, who made notes upon the fascinating puzzle in 1756, only 19 years after the walk, we would be hopelessly in the dark as to the landmarks intended.

He says in the valuable manuscript, now (1893) in the possession of Mrs. Richard Watson, of Doylestown, that "Mackeerickkiton" is Baker's creek, afterwards called Great creek, and now Knowles' creek, though the 1682 deed calls the Delaware river itself "Mackeerickkiton."\*

That Towssissink was thought in 1756 to be its most southern branch, heading in Joseph Hampton's land (i. e. the rill now rising close to Mr. Frank Doan's house, that crosses the Buckman and Watson wood) about one mile east of Wrightstown.

That the corner white oak marked "P" was thought by John Chapman, deceased, to stand in 1756 on Joseph Hampton's land, (now the Buckman and Watson and possibly Doan tracts) on Towssissink creek above described.

That "Playwicky" or "Laywicky" was an Indian town or plantation about Philip Draket's, below Heaton's mill.†

Another John Watson, cousin to the above, commenting on his relative's notes in 1815, says that the line, with its elbow just east of Wrightstown, ended on Neshaminy at the High Rocks, on the left bank below Worthington's mill on the present Blackfan property.

That the corner white oak "was or is supposed to be or have stood near the northeast corner of Joseph Hampton's land," and that "the corner spruce tree stands by my measure 140 perches, measured by the bank of the river, above the mouth of the Great creek."

These notes settle the starting point of the line on the Delaware, for there can be no mistake about the "corner marked spruce tree" seen by John Watson-



(the second) in 1815, and whether Mac-kerickkiton means the present Knowles' creek or not the "mountain" is Jericho hill.

Leaving Lahaska creek and "Windy Bush" behind us, to stand on its top and look down into the valley, our interest in old farmhouses that were Washington's and Greene's headquarters and meadows where the Continental army lay encamped before the battle of Trenton, wanes at the thought of this puzzle of an earlier time. We are on the "mountain" or "ledge of the mountains" of the old deed. Below us ripples Mac-keerickkiton, near whose mouth once stood the "corner marked spruce tree."† Somewhere through the leafy dells to the right is its southern branch, Towssissink, and there is or may be still the Indian path and the white oak near a spring blazed with Penn's initial.

Descend the hill, cross the stream and follow its right bank by the road up the valley, not west-northwest as the deed says, since that would lead up the river, and as John Watson (the second) remarks, "include no land at all," but west-southwest, convinced that the deed's direction was a slip of the pen.

Where the dale narrows and the rustling woods arch thickest over the way, by the old Hampton tract,‡ Towssissink, if the Watsons are right, is the brook that there flows southward across the road, and there if anywhere Nature will tell us the secret of the blazed oak, the Indian path and the lost "Playwicky." Tramping through green underbrush and by briar-covered banks of shale to the mill's source, half a mile away, Dr. Charles C. Abbott and I saw in June, 1892, a large white oak, probably 400 or 500 years old, which may well have been one of the most interesting landmarks in Pennsylvania. Though we failed to find a trace of the Indian path, the venerable oak, not a hundred yards from the line of the Buckman & Watson tract and comprised possibly by the Hampton land in 1756, close to the source of Towssissink, fulfilled fairly the conditions of the deed, save the blaze. But this, if buried under its bark, only its destruction could reveal, and we went away wondering if there, like James Miller, of Selinsgrove, on the Susquehanna, who, in 1891, split fifteen Indian beads out of the heart of a maple, or as a workman in Moore, Michigan, not many months ago, sawed an iron tomahawk, buried ten inches in the wood, out of a log, or as John Watson, above mentioned, in 1769, found on Lahaska creek the figure of the "Thunder bird," cut with stone axes, under the bark of a tree, we might not, if we dared to cut and saw and split the noble stem, find somewhere within its living circle of rings the tell-tale letter?

#### THE INDIAN TOWN "PLAYWICKY."

If to get to the oak‡ we have followed the brook, a strange impression is in store for us as we step out of the trees into a bleak clearing known as the

\* "Unto the Delaware river, alias Mak-riskhickon. Makerisk-kiton, written also Makensskiton, Makerisk-hickon and Makeerick kiton in early Indian deeds, denotes I am inclined to believe, a spot either on the bank or in the bed of the river Delaware, which conjecture I base on the termination *kiton* evidently intended for *kit hanne* or *gicht-hanne*, signifying 'the main stream.'"—Heckewelder, Indian Names, Nazareth, 1892, p. 254.

† Playwicky, "corrupted from Plaenwicksbitt, signifying 'the home or habitation of the Indians of the

Turkey tribe."—Heckewelder, Indian Names, p. 262.

‡ This tree has certainly disappeared, as I paced off the distance up the river and looked in vain for it in June, 1891.

§ Now Buckman & Watson's woodland.

¶ The oak stood in 1891 by the spring close to Mr. Frank Doan's house. Examination of the titles for this and the adjoining property in the deed books in Doylestown may reveal whether it could have ever been comprised in the northwest corner of Hampton's land.

"Indian field." We have come as out of an oasis suddenly into the desert. A hillside shuts in the place on the west and high woods hide its four or five acres on all other sides. There is no house in sight.

Young trees have sprung up and grass grows on the supposed native clearings on the Updyke farm, on Fish run, near Jamison's Corner; on Henry Woodman's farm, on Robin run, near Concord; on the Paxson property, near Holieong; on the north side of Jericho hill, and on Buckwampun, but here, blighted in the midst of fertilest Buckingham, the "Indian field," strangest sight of them all, remains a red waste.

The late Josiah B. Smith, of Newtown, was impressed with the spot, until his death, as the site of Playwicky, but the fact that no Indian remains have ever been found there would rule it out, it John Watson's note, above referred to, had not distinctly placed "Playwicky" in Northampton or Southampton township, "about Philip Dracot's, below Heaton's mill."

Still to agree with John Watson is not easy, for what with Philip Dracot or Draket or Dracott and Ralph Dracord, mentioned in the Bucks county deed books (V, 309; IX, 159; IX, 158,) as owning or transferring land in Southampton close to the Northampton border, I cannot yet find where a Philip Draket lived in 1756, though deeds prove that Heaton's mill is the present (Willard estate) mill on Ironwork creek, at Roeksville, Northampton township. The Dracot family, says local tradition, once owned the Stephen Delany farm on Mill creek, above the mouth of the Ironwork brook, but in a walk along Mill creek for four or five miles in 1891 I searched on either bank in vain for a spot sufficiently scattered with stone implements, charcoal and pottery to have indicated an Indian town or note.

If the few relies on the Delany farm mark the spot, then Playwicky was either a very small village or had been occupied but a very short time; while, should the words "below Heaton's mill" mean anywhere to the southward of the stream, then some inland site, less inferably suited to Indian taste, near Feasterville, may yet be found to corroborate John Watson.

#### PECHEQUEOLIN.

If we have lost "Playwicky" we have found thanks to the investigations of Mr. Charles Laubach, of Durham, Peechequelin, the Indian town about the mouth of Durham cave, whose fire sites and stone circles Anthony Laubach remembered about 1812 as extending from Durham creek to Riegelsville. So they remained till the canal, cultivation and the freshet of 1841 destroyed them.

William Walters plowed down in 1853-55 three mounds six to eight feet high on the hilltop behind the cave, near which about seven acres of woodland cleared by the Indians remained until 1855.



Later a group of twenty-five stones set on end were taken away to build a neighboring wall, save one that I saw in 1892 still standing as a land boundary by the Morgantown road. Pechequoelin's trails and paths led up and down the river, across the hill by the clearing, up the Brandywine creek and up the Durham creek to meet the path followed by Marshall and the "walkers," on which the Durham road was afterwards built.

To have seen the large, dry chamber of Durham cave before its destruction by the iron company was to have recognized that Man from the time of his arrival in the Delaware Valley must have used it as a habitation. But the bones of men and animals, gathered about 1845-59 by Professor H. D. Rogers, State geologist, were sent in boxes to the Academy of Natural Sciences in Philadelphia before it was realized that the whole question of human antiquity on the river could probably have been settled there.

The story of the evolution of stone implements and human association with fossils was forgotten when no careful record was kept of the circumstances of discovery, and science lost little when the stone objects found and sent to Dr. Swift, of Easton, were burned at the fire in Pardee Hall. The damage, though unintended, had already been done.

From *True American*

*Trenton N. J.*

Date, *Sept. 19<sup>th</sup> 1893,*

#### TWO INTERESTING PHOTOS.

Pictures of the First Delaware River Steamboats Presented by Ex-Senator Kinsey to the Bucks County Historical Society.

Ex-Senator William Kinsey, of Bristol, who takes a deep interest in all that relates to the county and its history, has made an appreciable present to the Bucks County Historical Society. This consists of two handsome photographs in one frame of the first two steamboats that plied on the Delaware between Philadelphia and Trenton. They bore the names of "Phoenix" and "Philadelphia."

The "Phoenix" was built by John C. Stevens, at Hoboken, N. J., in 1807, and made her first trip to Bristol, on Sunday, July 30, 1809. Hundreds of people went down to see this great wonder upon its arrival at Bristol, among whom was Mr. Kinsey, then an active boy. She was commanded by Captain Davis, or Davidson, and her engineer was Robert Stevens, son of the builder. She was the first steam-

er that navigated the ocean between New York and Philadelphia. Her speed was 8 miles an hour with the tide, and she was looked upon as a perfect specimen of a steamboat. After running a few years her machinery gave out and she was laid up, and her machinery taken out. The Kensington flats were her grave, and there she was suffered to rot down and pass away. This pioneer steamboat on the Delaware has long since passed from the memory of all but the few like the venerable ex-Senator Kinsey, whose eventful life is connected with the same generation.

The "Phoenix" was succeeded by the "Philadelphia," which was built at New York by J. C. Stevens in 1813, and commenced running between Philadelphia and Trenton in 1815. Her captain was Abisha Jenkins, a great favorite with the traveling public. She left Trenton at 7 A. M. and Philadelphia at 2 P. M. on her return trip, her speed being ten miles an hour with the tide. She carried a small brass cannon, mounted on her forward deck, which was fired on her arrival at Bristol and Burlington. It burst on one occasion, killing one of the hands, and was never replaced. The "Philadelphia" was nicknamed "Old Sal." Many thought there never would be a boat on the river that would make better time. Between Philadelphia and Trenton there were but two stopping places, Burlington and Bristol. Passengers were received and landed in small boats by signals from the shore.

Apropos of the early steamboats on the Delaware, in the diary of Sarah Ridge, written in 1809 and published in Kate Field's *Washington*, the following is found under date of July 30, while at Burlington: "A charming Sunday morning. After church we went home with Mrs. Deacon to see the steamboat [this was the "Phoenix," which had just come round from New York by sea and Delaware bay, and the first steam vessel which made a sea voyage] come up the river, but it was not in sight and we soon returned. About six o'clock Mr. Franklin Eyre made his appearance, with "How do, ma'am." He came up in the steamboat and returned again in the evening. We all walked to the river shore. A numerous assembly of gentlemen and ladies, men and women, were collected on the bank to see the steamboat. They had re-



ained several hours before it appeared. It was coming over from Bristol. I suppose it had taken in some passengers there. We remained on the wharf till it came over, took a number of passengers from here and got under way. It looked very handsome. It is a boat about 120 feet long."

The photos. were presented to Mr. Kinsey by the Camden & Amboy Railroad Company. He saw both boats and traveled on them. These facts make an interesting chapter in the history of the early steam navigation of the Delaware.

From, *Enterprise*  
*Newtown Pa.*  
 Date, *Oct. 7<sup>th</sup> 1893.*

#### BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH OF GEORGE TRUMAN.

WRITTEN FOR BUCKS COUNTY FRIENDS' FIRST-DAY SCHOOL UNION, HELD NINTH-MONTH 23, 1893, AT SOLEBURY, BY ISAAC EYRE, OF NEWTOWN.

George Truman, a valued minister in the Society of Friends, was the son of James and Phebe M. Truman, consistent members of our Society, and was born in Philadelphia, on the 20th day of Sixth-month, 1798. By death he was deprived of his mother's care at the early age of two years. He valued the religious council of his father and his eldest sister, on whom the care of him devolved, and at the early age of three years he was made sensible of his Heavenly Father's reproof for using an unguarded expression of a profane word, the remembrance of which continued with him during all his long life, and proved to be a great preservation to him by causing him frequently to leave the company of persons who indulged in impiety.

His school education was very limited, as he was placed behind the counter in the store of his step-aunt at the early age of 12 years, so as to earn his own living.

At a very early age he seems to have been made sensible by a divine power that he would be, at some time, called to the work of the ministry, as he wrote as follows in some early reminiscences, viz.: "I well remember on one occasion when about seven or eight years of age, as I was sitting by myself, it was clearly opened to my understanding that my Heavenly Father would at some time require of me great dedication of heart, and that I would have to make known of His great goodness and love to the people in the manner that I had heard many valued Friends declare in our meetings, to which my father was always careful to take me."

At about the age of 14 he prevailed on his father to allow him to wear a coat that was not made with a plain collar, but after he got it he was not satisfied, knowing that it was not agreeable to his parent's desire, and the impression was sealed on his mind that he had dishonored his beloved father, so the next coat he had made was in conformity with Friends.

At the age of 15 years George was duly apprenticed to William Guaragues to learn the trade of carpenter, and served his time faithfully to the end.

When he arrived at the age of 21 years he joined with a number of Friends in forming a settlement in Western New York on the borders of Lake Ontario. Among the company was Margaret Pryor, who was a daughter of John Wilson, the celebrated ship builder of that day, who built for John Fitch the first steamboat that ever ran on any water.

George only remained in that colony about two years, a part of which time he was engaged in superintending the building of a large town house about seven miles distant, but every Seventh-day evening he walked home, even if there was snow on the ground and the howling of wolves could be heard, so as to be at First-day morning meeting, as he regarded this religious duty paramount to any selfish consideration. When he left the colony he returned to Philadelphia.

In 1821 he was married to Catharine H. Master, who proved to be a true helpmeet and sympathizer with him in his religious exercises for a period of fifty-six years. They moved to and settled in the city of New York, where for several years he pursued his business of carpenter and builder. It was whilst living in New York in the Eighth-month, 1825, that he first appeared in public as a minister.

In 1826 he removed with his family from New York to Abington, in Pennsylvania, where he had charge of the Friends' school, and from there they went to Philadelphia to live, and removed their certificate to Philadelphia Monthly Meeting, where in the Tenth-month, 1829, his gift in the ministry was duly acknowledged, but previous to that time he had traveled in the ministry and visited some of the meetings within the limits of New York Yearly Meeting with the concurrence of the elders, although not yet recommended, as in those troublesome times it was difficult for all to unite in recommending any one.

It was during that visit to New York Meeting that Elias Hicks said to him, "I am afraid thee will be carried out of some meetings," and at one time it did seem as if there was a danger of it, for when he was in attendance at the Quarterly Meeting at Rahway, where a number of the Orthodox Yearly Meeting Committee was in attendance, after George had spoken, Richard Hartshorn arose and said, "there was a young man present who sat below him and who had occupied a considerable portion of the time, and as they did not know him, who he was, where he was from, or anything else respecting him, it would be right for him to let the meeting know by what



authority he was there attending, and if he had any credentials he had better produce them."

George then got up and said, "My name is George Truman. I am a member of Abington Monthly Meeting, Pennsylvania. I told them what my prospect was and how I had been set at liberty. If I had done ought against the eternal, invisible power of truth, which witnessed for them in the secret of their own souls, I was prepared to be judged by them and their law." Richard then said it was no more than right that Friends coming among them should make themselves known, and if they had certificates present them. Some Friends considered that he had presented all the certificate that was necessary; but Richard thought such views ought never to be heard amongst the Society of Friends. Then the matter ended, and the meeting soon concluded. When at Stamford Quarter he had still rougher usage, but they did not put him out. He accomplished this visit on less than \$10, although he traveled over 600 miles. Some Friends offered him money, but he declined to receive any, and walked many miles, and on his return walked from Jersey City to Crosswicks.

In 1830 he obtained his first minute to travel, and went to meetings in New York Yearly Meeting, being accompanied by Clement Biddle as companion.

Between the years 1830 and 1877 inclusive he had, granted to him by his Monthly Meeting, thirty-three minutes to travel, on five of which visits his wife went with him as traveling companion. At other times he was accompanied by Clement Biddle, Richard Price, Henry M. Zollikoffer, James Mott, Wm. Dorsey and Wm. Eyre, but often went without any special companion. Nine of his visits were to New York Yearly Meeting, six to Baltimore Yearly Meeting, one to Nantucket and as far east as Boston, in New England, one to New England and the British Provinces, two to Genesee and one to Ohio and Indiana Yearly Meetings, and one to the British West India Islands. On that visit he was accompanied by John Jackson and Thomas B. Longstreth. This was a very difficult visit to perform, as the Governor of the Island of St. Croix sent an official notice to the police masters not to permit them to hold any religious meetings on the Island, and to return to them their minutes or certificates which he had retained when put in his hands for examination on their arrival. It was the fear of their making remarks on the subject of slavery that was supposed to be the reason for that order or notice. Finding there was no opportunity for holding meetings on that island, they went to others where liberty was given, and they held many meetings. An interesting account was published in a book of 130 pages, entitled *A Narrative of a Visit to the West Indies in 1840 and 1841*, by George Truman, John Jackson and T. B. Longstreth.

It may be thought by some that so much time was occupied by George in the service of his Divine Master that very little was left for his temporal affairs, but, being quite

a genius, he invented or discovered some things that were quite profitable, and had they been known by some men they would have made independent fortunes by them. He was the first man who was able to bleach cotton seed oil, and he made a machine with his own hands with which to clean cotton seed from the fibres of cotton that cling so close to it, but he did not get it patented because he feared that it would enhance the value of slaves and slaves' labor in the cultivation of cotton. He also was the first man to successfully manufacture lard oil, which is now so extensively used. The very great improvement of lamps is also due to his inventive genius, as he introduced atmospheric air into the centre of the flame, and no lamp is now used in any part of the world for burning coal oil but which maintains the principle of combustion on the system invented by George Truman. He also, in connection with his brother, devised the process of coating tin with lead, which prevents its rusting, and rendered tin roof painting unnecessary, but as it is rather more costly it is not very extensively used.

At one period he became much interested in the manufacture of paper from vegetable fibres, and discovered that a very tough quality of paper could be made from the plant called cat-tail, which grows so luxuriantly in many wet places.

Although he was brought up to a mechanical trade, it was his desire from early life to become a physician, and when about middle age he learned the profession of dentistry, which he followed for some years, but finally he took to the study of medicine, and graduated at the college in Philadelphia and became a very successful physician.

The practice of this profession introduced him to the homes of many of the poor and lowly, to whom his services were freely rendered, and to those he was especially a ministering spirit. His intercourse with them tended to broaden and liberalize his views, and led him often to acknowledge that "In every nation he that feareth God and worketh righteousness is accepted with him." As very much of his time as a physician was occupied in visiting the poor, whom he did not charge much, if anything, for his services, it was fortunate that one of his step-aunts—for whom he had attended store in his very early years—left the greater part of her accumulated property to him, which enabled him to live very comfortably in his declining years.

He was a great friend of education, and was one of the signers of the original address that was issued in favor of establishing what is now known as Swarthmore College, and took a very active part as a member of the committee to obtain subscriptions for that purpose, but he was exceedingly tried when the stock idea was introduced, which gave the rich more power than the poor, as that did not coincide with his democratic views of the equality of man. This for a while chilled his ardor, but he was willing to hope it would all come out right.



He was the promoter of the "Friends' Historical Library," of which we see frequent notices published in the *Friends' Intelligencer*. He also used his influence with Anson Lapham, a wealthy Friend in Western New York, to get him to make the liberal donation for the fitting up and furnishing of what is now called the Anson Lapham Repository, at Swarthmore, where the historical library is now kept. He also took a lively interest in the Friends' Central School, and used to enjoy meeting with the children at Race Street Meeting, where he frequently preached to them.

I have said nothing as yet in regard to his doctrinal views, nor do I think it is necessary to say much, except that he was very liberal and was willing to allow everybody to enjoy their own belief, and claimed that liberty for himself; and, like Lucretia Mott, did not hesitate to speak plainly of the efforts of the clergy, through the Young Men's Christian Association, to control the liberties of the people, as many of their views are at variance with the liberal principles professed by Friends, and he feared if they are allowed to be carried to their sequence some who are now living may yet see the consummation of Joseph Hoag's vision, of a union of Church and State.

He was descended from a long line of worthy Friends, the same as was his relative, John M. George, who left the liberal endowment for the George Friends' School, which it is hoped will perpetuate Friends' Society.

It has been said of George Truman, by one who knew him well, that "The final analysis of his mind is not difficult—its inspiring force was duty; its aim, the good of the human race; the results, 'Peace on earth and good will to men.' Of the theology of the schools he knew little and cared less. While taking great interest in the examination and discussion of religious dogmas, they had no lot or part in his religious life," as his religion was one of faith, of hope, of loving kindness, of charity. A religion that sought out the poor and the lowly, that saw God in the beggar as in the prince, that feared God and worked righteousness because it produced the best results in this life, broadened the experience, elevated the soul and brought it nearer to the divine. A religion that sought to bring heaven to earth, which is but the footstool of the Master, and is the first step on the onward march toward the great centre of love.

At the time of his death he was occupying the house he had built, on the same spot of ground that was occupied by his father's house, in which he was born just 79 years, 5 months and 1 day previously. For a few months before his departure his physical powers gradually declined, and for some weeks he was confined to bed, but his mental faculties continued in exercise till the close of his earthly life. During his illness he often expressed his love for the precious silence which was felt when those most dear to him were gathered in his chamber. Two of his grandchildren coming in, he said: "Dear children, keep near the gift of God"; and to his wife, just before

the close, he said: "We will soon be parted. My Father will be with me in the hour of need—I am very weak, but all is well. There is nothing in my way, I am satisfied with the Divine ordering." He closed his eyes, folded his hands on his breast, and quietly and peacefully passed away to join the assembly and church of the first-born, which are written in heaven. He certainly died the death of a true Christian.

From, *Intelligencer*

Doylestown Pa.

Date, Oct. 10<sup>th</sup> 1893.

# AN ANCIENT ARGILLITE QUARRY AND AN INDIAN VILLAGE SITE ON THE DELAWARE.

BY H. C. MERCER.

[Continued.]

## THE BED OF GADDIS' RUN.

I have called the bed of Gaddis' run a pathway because, though drier now than in the days of the Great Forest, any ancient people ascending the bottom of the narrow ravine, must have walked by preference on or close to it to avoid unnecessary clambering along the steep slopes.

As far as appearances went it was a quarry in itself, and the wonder was that the ancient stone chipper should have mounted the slope to dig argillite blocks buried seven feet deep, out of the ground, when he here had, to all appearances, equally good ones in inexhaustible supply, lying on the surface. That at the time of the quarries the stream's bed was probably far less widened by freshets and often brimful of water, may have accounted for the absence of worked stone along the margin in part, but I looked for the reason in the fact explained to me by the curbstone cutters, and afterwards proved by my own experience in chipping freshly unearthed masses, that argillite flakes best when newly quarried and wet. This was a feature of the stone in distinction to the quality of the flint of Eastern England, which has to be dried by stoves or in the sun (as the "Knappers" of Brandon told me,) before working, and to that of the blocks of hornstone which Mr. S. P. Leland (Smiths, Rept., 1881, Part I,) saw Indians flaking by pressure with hot stones.

In a careful study of the ravine from the quarries to the river, the following facts were noted:

(a) A broken yellow jasper pebble, about 1½ inches in diameter, lay in the



stream's bed opposite the lowest quarry pit. Nearly a square inch of water-worn surface showed, but there was no sign of chipping. The bruised, irregular fractures and the red tints at places indicated that it had been subjected to fire. It inderably came from the Delaware river and was dropped by Indians somewhere along the stream.\*

(b) Four pebble hammer-stones, three of quartzite and one of hard sandstone, or trap, 5 inches, 3 and 1½ inches in largest diameter respectively, four argillite "turtlebacks" of quarry pattern, and four large chips were found in the bed of the stream at distances of from 20 paces to 500 feet below the quarries. Two of the "turtlebacks" were lying near the chips. They may have been washed down from the quarry refuse and were probably not made on the spot.

(c) About 870 feet below the quarry the ravine widened a little and a small cornfield opened on the left bank. There I picked up several fire-fractured pebbles, the well trimmed point of an argillite blade of cache form, 1½ inches broad and 1 inch thick; near it lay two long thin knife-like flakes, triangular in section, two heavy chips, one imperfectly chipped blade 3½ inches long, 1½ wide and ½ an inch thick, besides two "turtlebacks," apparently ruder than the average quarry type. Without attempting to draw any inference from the "turtlebacks," the features of the spot were very significant. Besides the suggestion of habitation furnished by the fire site, we had a worked stone point and flakes evidencing the existence of a kind of blade-making that has long been familiar to us as the work of the Indian.

(d) The ravine opened into the river valley when we had followed the stream down to its mouth in the Tohickon, and 333 yards farther along the now free shores brought us to the mouth of the latter in the Delaware, near which, on the right Tohickon bank, about two hundred feet from the stream, the unmistakable refuse of an Indian blade-trimming workshop lay scattered among the weeds and boulders.

So much for the bed of Gaddis' run. It was a means of ingress into the interior which the river tribes must continually have followed. That it had been an Indian pathway the cornfield site, and now the workshop, proved beyond a reasonable doubt.

By this way the littered trail of blade material had led Man, while yet a blade-chipper in the Age of Stone, to the purest source of the rock, and the evidence had thus far indicated that the Man so led was the modern Indian.

#### AN INDIAN BLADE FACTORY.

There was no doubt as to the Indian parentage of the objects found among the chips at the workshop; the two broad, thinned-down blades of argillite, 3½ and 4½ inches long respectively; the 8 ends and 20 points of similar broken blades, the broadest 3 inches wide by ½ an inch thick, the narrowest 1½ inches broad by ¼ inch thick; the sharp end of a polished sandstone celt, the 2 or 3 pebble hammerstones, one of which was pitted on one side; the 2 yellow jasper chips and 3 small black jasper or chert fragments, one showing a water-worn surface and the one unsymmetrical argillite blade chipped thin and evidently unfinished. Nor were we surprised to discover among them eighteen "turtlebacks."

With the celt, the thin blades and flakes positively connecting the site with the Indian, we here looked for evidence of the very kind of work we wished to see. Granted that loads of the successful quarry "turtlebacks" had been carried away to Indian workshops like this for thinning down into the sort of blades we were now finding; here at this first river-side halting place below the quarry we might hope to discover the "missing link," the "turtleback," which, having been a success at the quarry, was carried either and broken, lost or cast aside in the new process.

But the specimens found were confusing. True, one "turtleback," one end and a point seemed fully up to the standard of the quarry. The former, with its flat opposing planes, fulfilled my notion of what constituted the object of the quarry workman—a successful inchoate blade which was not a "reject," and which would have been carried away from the diggings as fit for future thinning. The trouble was that it and the two other specimens exactly resembling the broken ends and points at the quarry, had not been modified by any new flaking. Whatever the handicraft involved in the making of the surrounding thin blades, there was no sign of it on these three specimens. If any of the thin flakes had been worked from them, they would have shown conchoidal grooves on their surfaces to prove it; but they did not. The inference therefore was that this particular "turtleback," after having been brought to the workshop had been lost, and that if, as appeared, the two broken specimens had been made at the quarry, they had been carried down to the workshop after they were broken.

On the other hand the 17 other "turtlebacks" found at the workshop were more worthless "failures," judged by our standard, than the worst at the quarry. Six of them were only about two inches long, two were very large and circular in form. Irregular and thick they showed no trace of systematized plan. Had such

\*A few days afterward I found a large pebble five inches in diameter on the right river beach, one mile above the Point Pleasant bridge. Two years before I had found another on the right bank at the mouth of Pidcock's creek, below New Hope. The specimen in Gaddis' run was probably handled by Indians, and as it could not reasonably have been water worn in the manner evidenced since it was dropped, they must have found it on the river in the first place, and not at any of the jasper quarries.

specimens been desired at the quarry, then no "turtleback" would have been left there. This obvious inferiority in form and their position among heavy chips, chipped blocks and argillite boulders proved, therefore, to my satisfaction, that these latter "turtlebacks" had been made not at the quarry, but on the spot. Here, then, at the source of the material, we had come upon two sorts of the much discussed "turtlebacks"—"turtlebacks" of the quarry and "turtlebacks" of the river-side. "Turtlebacks" made according to a system, with special knowledge of the grain of the stone, and from material dug out of the earth, and "turtlebacks" made as if carelessly, without system and at haphazard from material lying on the surface about the beaches. But why (with the one exception noted,) were the "turtlebacks" of the quarry not brought down to the workshop?

Their unexpected absence puzzled us completely until the following consideration seemed to explain it: It was that



if the work of quarrying, blocking out and thinning down were properly done, there ought to be no quarry "turtlebacks" found at the workshop at all. The reason was plain. Any "turtleback" carried from the quarry to the workshop had, *ipso facto*, passed the failure point. Too good to be cast aside as a reject or waster, it was now ready for another process, that of thinning down. If the thinning work went wrong, or it broke during thinning, it would be cast aside as a failure of another kind, which let us call workshop failure. But the more thinning work done upon it up to the point of this latter failure, the less would it look like the thing it was when it left the quarry and first arrived at the workshop, namely, a "turtleback." In a word, no quarry "turtlebacks" would have been brought to the workshop except those that would thin down, and those that would thin down did, as a rule, thin down, soon losing their "turtleback" character, unless lost, broken or cross-grained. So then, though many quarry "turtlebacks" may have been brought to the workshop, very few might reasonably have been expected to be found there.

Granted, on the other hand, that "turtlebacks" had been made at the workshop, it was as easy to see why those of them that were failures had been left there, as to see why those of the quarry "turtlebacks" that were failures had been left at the quarry.

In fact the workshop repeated the story of the quarry and something more. There, as at the quarry, "turtlebacks" were made from material at hand; but at the workshop the successful "turtlebacks," instead of being carried away, were then and there thinned down into blades. So much, then, for the eighteen "turtlebacks" found at the workshop. Seventeen were "rejects," made on the spot and cast aside; one was probably a successful blank brought from the quarry and lost. As for the broken end and point of quarry pattern, their presence remains a mystery, unless we suppose such pieces to have been occasionally brought away from the mines to be worked up into small objects.

One more question remained to delay us at the workshop. A glance had shown us that the flakes, some of them three inches long and scarcely one-eighth of an inch thick, were utterly unlike the thick heavy chips of the diggings, and as we examined the broken blades, themselves unmistakable evidences of a stone-chipping procedure, distinct from that of the quarries, we might well ask the question, What was the flaking process practiced at the workshop? How were the "turtlebacks" thinned down into blades?

Mr. William A. Adams, a miner of Denver, Colorado, told me in September, 1893, at New Galena, Bucks county, Pa., that he had seen in about 1864 Pendoreilles in Crow Creek Valley, Montana, Crows in Yellowstone Valley and Flatheads in Montana chipping arrowheads by blows with porphyry and quartz pebbles, and iron hatchets upon splinters shivered with pebbles, or iron hatchets from masses of obsidian about six inches in diameter.

Lieutenant E. J. Beckwith (Pacific R. R. Survey, vol. 2, p. 43) in June, 1854, saw Indians on the Sacramento river, in California, making arrowheads from quartz fragments by direct pressure with

bone punches creased or grooved on their ends.

B. B. Redding (Am. Naturalist, Nov. 1879, p. 667) saw a Cloud river Indian near Mt. Shasta send off an obsidian flake by a blow on a bone chisel, from which he made an arrowhead by direct pressure with an antler punch.

Stephen Powers (Contrib. to N. A. Ethnology, vol. 3, p. 104) saw, in 1875, Wiyot Indians, on Humboldt Bay and Eagle River, Northern California, make with bone tweezers arrowheads from flakes of chert split in the fire. Edwin A. Cheever (Am. Naturalist, May, 1870) about 1840-60 saw California Indians nipping arrowheads of obsidian with notched bones. Paul Schumacher (*Archiv für Anthropologie* 7, 1874, p. 264) about 1860-70 saw Klamath Indians, of northern California, by direct pressure with bone-tipped punches, making arrowheads from chips splintered from fire-heated masses of flint obsidian or jasper. Caleb Lyon (Bulletin Am. Ethnol. Soc., vol. 1, p. 39) about 1860 saw a Shasta Indian in California chipping an obsidian flake into an arrowhead about one inch long, by direct percussion with an "agate chisel."

Captain John Smith (6th voyage) about 1606 saw Virginia Indians making heart-shaped arrowheads by direct pressure with "a little bone." Catlin (Last Rambles Among the Indians, chap. 5, p. 187-90) about 1860-68 saw Apaches making arrowheads by blows with wooden wallets upon bone punches set against chips of flint. Admiral Sir E. Belcher (Trans. Ethnol. Soc. of London, 1861, p. 138) about 1858-60 saw Eskimos at Cape Lisburn making blades by direct pressure with antler punches on obsidian flakes laid over spoon-shaped cavities in logs, and as noted before S. P. Leland (Smiths. Rept., 1887, part 1) about 1850 saw Indians (unnamed) flaking hornstone by pressing down on it with pebbles about five inches broad and six long heated in the fire.

Discussion of the above interesting accounts seems out of place until we have more satisfactorily verified them by careful experiment. Suffice it here to note that all, with two exceptions, refer to flaking with a bone punch either by directly pressing on it or by hammering it while held against the stone.

As all seem to refer to the making of comparatively small arrowheads and hence to the producing of flakes, none of which probably needed to be over half an inch long, we must turn to the following for suggestions as to the broad blades and formidable flakes found at the workshop.

Torquenada (*Monarquia Indiana Sevilla, 1615*) in the beginning of the 17th century saw ancient Mexicans sending off obsidian flakes six and seven inches long with wooden mounted bone punches set against their breasts, from cores held between their feet.

But I know that flakes nearly as long and thin can be sent off English flint by direct percussion, for I saw the "knappers" at Brandon knocking them from similar cores with steel hammers.\*

Catlin (Smithsonian Rept., 1835, p. 370) told George Ercol Sellers that he had seen Indians flaking jasper and agate with long wooden punches set with bone points, weighted with hanging stones and held against their breasts. When the pressure was applied a co-operator



struck a fork in the punch a blow with a club.

Dr. Knapp (Smiths. Rept., 1887, part 1) saw Indians on Twelve Mile Island, in the Mississippi river, near Guttenberg, Iowa, making arrowheads by pressing

\*Three of these sets of flint flakes with their cores I have placed in the archaeological museum of the University of Pennsylvania.

down on the stone with the side of the leg bone of a deer used as a lever, and set in a notched tree. The notch was large enough to hold the blade worked upon and a basal stone on which it rested.

George Ercol Sellers (Smiths. Rept., 1885, p. 870) heard from a trapper who had seen Indians sending off large flakes by leverage of the same sort. A long wooden lever was set in the notched tree; a bone point fixed in its side pressed down upon the blade, which rested on a flat root. When the pressure was applied the lever was struck above the bone with a mallet.†

So much for the accounts which I believe comprise all of importance thus far published in America by eye-witnesses. We learn from them of flaking (a) by direct percussion; (b) by indirect percussion, or hammering on punches; (c) by direct pressure; (d) by impulsive pressure, or pressure aided by a blow, and (e) by pressure aided by heat.

Moreover, we have hints in the descriptions as to digging some stones out of the ground and gathering others on the surface, wetting some and drying or baking others, and we fully realize that we are grappling with a very intricate question.

Almost dismayed at this greatest craft of the Stone Age, and dissatisfied with our own inadequate attempts to master it, we can well appreciate the remark of Catlin, that "great skill was required and a thorough knowledge of the nature of each stone, a slight difference in quality necessitating a totally different manner of treatment."

Until observation or experiment shall have enlightened us further, we must remain in the dark as to whether the blades at the workshop in question were made by any of the kinds of percussion or any of the kinds of pressure described, realizing only that whatever the process employed, it was widely different from that kind of percussion used in fashioning the "turtlebacks" at the quarries.

But the main point of our investigation of the refuse has been proved. The blade factory was the work of modern Indians, and was an adjunct of the quarry.

†In collecting certain of these interesting narratives I have been indebted to the kind assistance of Messrs W. H. Holmes, of Washington, and A. F. Berlin, of Allentown

From, *Free Press*  
*Quaker Town Pa.*

Date, *Oct. 13* 1893.

The old building of the Newtown Library Company, an organization that was formed in 1766 with a membership of twenty one persons, has now passed away. It stood on the westside of Court street, about half way between Penn street and Centre avenue, and for years was a cherished spot to some of the older residents of the place. Since the erection of the new library building it has degenerated to various uses, and last year was purchased by S. C. Keith, proprietor of the White Hall hotel. It was torn down this week to make room for the hotel stables, which are to be moved several feet north flush with the line of the property, covering the site of the ancient landmark.

From, *Intelligencer*  
*Doylestown Pa.*

Date, *Oct. 14* 1893.

# AN ANCIENT ARGILLITE QUARRY AND AN INDIAN VILLAGE SITE ON THE DELAWARE.

BY H. C. MERCER.  
[Concluded.]

That the sure traces of white contact everywhere noticeable above were not found below. That only two rude potsherds were found below, while many of their type and of other types occurred above. That the small triangular arrowheads, seen above were not discovered below, while the "fish spear" common below was, with one possible exception, not found above.

That while jasper was common above, only six chips and one worked blade of it were discovered below.

That neither the fine flakes nor the associated large thinned blades (with one doubtful exception), marking the trimming workshops above, were found below.

And finally, that argillite, though in excess of all other material in both layers, was three times more abundant in proportion to jasper below than above.

In carefully considering these differences as possibly indicating the existence of an earlier people, or tribe, who had not met white men, who had not developed the potter's art and had not made



triangular arrowheads; who had not yet mastered the craft of thinning broad blades, and had scarcely begun the use of jasper—in asking, in a word, whether these lower people were forerunners possibly of the Lenhi Lenape of the surface, we may not afford to overlook the migration legends of that people as preserved by Heckewelder (Indian Nations, p. 51,) and the Wallum Olum, or Painted Stick chronicle (Lenape and Their Legends. Brinton, p. 207).

The latter curious record, whose authenticity is tolerably well established, places eleven chiefs between the arrival of the Lenape at the Delaware Valley and the coming of white men (say Hudson, in 1609), and if we give twenty years to a chief's reign the date of their first coming would have been about 1387. This agrees with what a Lenape told the Rev. Charles Beatty in 1767 (Journal of a Two Months' Tour West of the Alleghany Mountains. Charles Beatty, p. 27. London, 1868). When counting beads on a wampum belt as years, according to tribal custom, he said that his people had come to the Delaware 370 years before, or in 1397.

The Heckewelder version of the tradition, however, which gives no means of fixing dates, would infer that the new comers found the country vacant. The exploring parties of the eastward migrating tribe, it says, arriving at the Susquehanna, followed it down to the Chesapeake Bay, then ascended the bay and outer sea coast and discovered the Delaware river, New Jersey and the Hudson river, a country abounding in game, fruits and fish, "and with no enemy to be dreaded."

This seeming absence of prior occupants in the new country is again suggested by the Wallum Olum, which refers to the newly discovered land as "a land free from snakes (enemies), a rich land, a pleasant land."

But without attempting to dwell too much on these traditions and their claim that the Lenape only arrived in the Delaware valley 500 years ago, and that before that time it had lain uninhabited for an unknown period, suffice it to say that at Lower Black's Eddy we have found two stages of occupancy.

The layers prove a difference in time, short or long. The character of the objects found a difference in culture. Future work can alone prove whether this difference denotes a mere accident of varying tribal conditions, or a wide spreading difference in cultural status. Let us only say now that at this one spot it exists.

As to the quarries, granted that they were connected with the blade-thinning workshops, the presence of these shops on the upper layer and surface, and their absence on the lower layer, would indicate that the quarries, with all of cultural significance that they involved, belonged to the time of the upper layer only, and that the people of the lower site, obtaining their material from the neighboring beaches, had not known or worked them; that as we suppose in the case of jasper, so, too, with argillite, water borne masses of the material were followed up by the blade chipper along beach and tributary stream, till the true outcrop of the native rock was discovered and the quarries at last systematically worked.

The village site, as represented by its upper and lower layer, must be looked upon as a quarry and habitation combined; and while at the less accessible inland workings of Gaddis' run we looked in vain for a trace of village life, here where the whole beach was a quarry, the riverside "turtleback" maker had not denied us abundant traces of his true state of culture. It was of the greatest importance to compare this place with the worked refuse on Gaddis' run, and making use of the opportunity offered by these adjacent sites to explain the argillite "turtlebacks" of the quarry. In doing so we had come upon and clearly distinguished a new class of "turtlebacks," the "turtlebacks" of the riverside. And it was not the scientifically made, broadly chipped and uniform group from the quarry, but these latter coarse, clumsy, irregular specimens, averaging seven or eight facets to a side, made with little knowledge of the grain and from material not dug from the earth, but found on the beaches, that, with the four exceptions noted below, if we judge by form, may be said to resemble the Trenton specimens.\*

#### THE TRENTON SPECIMENS.

\*I visited and examined the Abbott collection of Trenton specimens in the Peabody Museum (Cambridge, Massachusetts) on September 20, 21 and 22, 1894, and all data here given (in full when existing) as to the objects (discovered by Dr. C. C. Abbott, when not otherwise stated) are upon the authority of the labels, catalogue and letter books of the Museum as then seen. Four hundred and ninety-six forms are displayed as coming from the glacial gravels. Affixed labels and the catalogue state that 78 of these were found at recorded depths, the greatest depth recorded being 40 feet, the least 3 feet and the average about 10 feet.

All of the described 78 are of blue-black argillite, save 2 of black jasper or chert, 1 of quartzite and 1 of reddish slate. Several show original water worn surfaces. None of the 78, nor, indeed, of the whole 496, are specialized to the extent of the more finely worked French and English specimens.

Not certainly artificial.

Eleven would, in my opinion minus the evidence of associated disoveries, be classed as not demonstrably of human handiwork. This leaves 67 artificially chipped objects which I would classify as follows:

#### (1) Chips.

There are 7 small worked fragments, or chips, of indeterminate form.

#### (2) Small disc-like forms.

There are 5 of little rounded shapes, tending rather toward a circular than a lanceolate form, averaging 2.5-1.6 inches in diameter and  $\frac{1}{2}$  of an inch thick.

#### (3)

"Turtlebacks" worked on one side only.

Of these there are 11 with high "humps," which though considerably chipped on the converse side, are hardly worked at all on the other.

#### (4)

Small "Turtlebacks."

There are 13 of these little specimens averaging about  $\frac{3}{4}$  inches long, the smallest, No. 10,926, of black chert,  $\frac{1}{2}$  inches long and  $\frac{1}{4}$  of an inch thick. Found says the label, in 1876, "at the site of the Lutheran church, 6 feet below the surface."

#### (5)

"Turtlebacks."

Of these there are 16 of the usual size, generally about  $\frac{1}{2}$  inches long and  $\frac{1}{4}$  inches thick. They are rude and irregular and average about 8 facets on each side apiece.

Among them we remarked No. 11,338, made of a quartzite pebble and showing what seem to be a close series of artificial peckings (after the manner of the pits on a pitted hammerstone) upon its pebbly side, found 19 feet below the surface of a river bluff.

No. 44,162, found in a newly dug cellar of the Sixth ward of Trenton, 90 feet from the bluff and about 3 feet down in the gravel.

No. 49,97, of black chert, showing a pebble surface, found June, 1885, in a cellar digging in the

Examining these riverside "turtlebacks" aided by the position of layers at the village site, the evidence seemed to



indicate that even they ought to be divided again, that in the lower layer we had reached a series of them that to all appearance had lost their connection with the thinned down blades of the surface, and were probably fashioned before the quarries were worked. But leaving the question of the particular intent of these latter to be settled elsewhere, we may sum up the whole work done as follows:

We have learned that Lenni Lenape Indians had worked the Gaddis Run quarry probably as late the year 1700 for the purpose of making "turtlebacks" (different in type from the characteristic Trenton specimens) to be worked down into broad, thin forms that we have called "cache blades."

That the same Indians had worked the riverside trimming shop, carried thither quarry "turtlebacks" for thinning, and at the same time made riverside "turtlebacks," resembling the average Trenton specimens in form on the spot from surface material, and for the same purpose of thinning down.

That the same Indians had occupied the upper layer of the village site at Lower Black's Eddy, worked its trimming shop, and again scattered the site with riverside "turtlebacks" made on the spot.

That another tribe of Indians or band of the same tribe who had probably not worked the quarry, had at a long or short time previously occupied the lower layer of the village site, where they had still strewn the ground with riverside "turtlebacks" resembling the usual Trenton forms. So much for the information gained. Yet with these new facts, we realize that we are but at the threshold of the subject, that much further excavation is needed before we may venture positive and far-reaching conclusions, that much as our quarry study has enlightened us as to one of the important problems of the age of stone, we still are far from an explanation of the many new conditions that arise to perplex us, as we follow the mysterious "turtleback" farther backward into the darkness.

Chambersburg suburb of Trenton, in place 4 feet down in fine sand below coarse gravel.

No. 11,290 found in a cellar 1 mile east of the river at a depth of 4 feet.

No. 46,291 found in a sewer in South Warren street, Trenton, 5 to 7 feet below the surface.

No. 11,539 brought up in a bucket, at a depth of 17 feet, in a newly dug well, 1 mile east of the river.

No. 11,241 taken from a wet wheelbarrow load of gravel at cellar digging, 1 mile east of the river.

No. 19,724 from a clay pit on Abbott farm, 3 feet below surface.

No. 45,913 from the railroad cut east of the Pennsylvania railroad station, 7 feet down from the surface.

No. 25,561 found 7 feet deep at the railroad cut, in a pocket of fine sand.

Many others are labeled as discovered at the several river bluffs.

Looked at as a class these "turtlebacks," with their 13 smaller relatives above noted, are rough, irregular and very ill-mated. Averaging about 3 facets to a side, they betray no systematic style or plan of manufacture, and differ completely, as remarked before, from the quarry specimens of Gaddis' run. On the other hand they resemble in form and finish the patterns called by us "Riverside Turtlebacks," and discovered at the Indian village site of Lower Black's Eddy.

(8)

#### Long thin forms.

Four long thin specimens, of which Nos. 11,523 and 11,287 resemble partly-worked blades of the surface cache type, perplex and astound us. No. 11,523 is 10½ in. long, 2 in. broad and ¾ in. thick; 11,287 (a fragment) 3 in. long, 1½ in. broad and ¾ in. thick, the former taken in situ from gravel overtopping clay at De Cou's hillside, about 15 feet from the surface, in 1877; the latter found in March, 1877, beneath soil against A. K. Eowan's bluff 22 feet from the surface, and so placed as to give evidence of not having fallen from above, though its resemblance to Indian specimens was noted at its discovery.

Nos. 10,188 5 1/8 in. long, 1 1/2 in. broad and only 1/2 in. thick, and 10,189, rough and clumsily splintered, 4 in. long, 1 1/2 in. wide and 3/4 in. thick, were, say the labels, found in place in gravel 4 feet from surface on Lamberton street bluff, by F. W. P. and C. C. A.

(7)

#### Specimens resembling the rude based "Coup de poing" of Abbeville.

We seem to be at Abbeville again as we handle the 3 very interesting specimens, No. 11,752 (found 1877, 7 feet from surface on the bluff); No. 16,161 (found 1878, at railroad cut, 1 mile east of Trenton, 4 feet below surface), and No. 45,913 (found May, 1888, at railroad cut, 7 feet from surface).

These certainly have been roughly worked down to points, leaving the base comparatively untouched, after the manner of so many of the eye-catching European specimens, yet quite lacking the degree of specialization at the point that characterizes the best make of those latter.

Three other specimens of this shape, Nos. 1635, 12,281 and 33,367, seem still better adapted for grasp in the hand as tools, but their depth and position have not been recorded.

(8)

#### "Turtlebacks" of Gaddis' run type.

A group of 4 "turtlebacks" (15 others lie near them, of unrecorded depth and position) have seemed to their eyes, as to ours, a class by themselves, for they have been ranged together in rows and catch the eye at once as we overlook the collection.

While the other "turtlebacks" are rough thick, ill-mated and many planed, these are broad, clean cut, regular, thin and of few places. They average about 6½ in. long, 2½ in. wide and 1 in. thick, with about 3 facets (4 at most) to a side. One, No. 33,163, was found October 3, 1883, at the railroad cut, 9 feet below the surface; and 3, Nos. 41,059, 41,068 and 41,100, on Tuesday, March 8th, o. De Cou's bluff, touching each other as they protruded from a break in the escarpment, 5½ feet below the surface, and where the bluff top was 60 feet above the river, and where 15, as noted above, are from undetermined positions, and 2, notwithstanding their case labels, should by the catalogue be classed as Indian specimens. To look at the 4 and their 15 fellows is to stand agog at the quarry at Gaddis' run. They are a class by themselves, and without venturing to call them "quarry turtlebacks," we see clearly that they bear a striking and undeniable resemblance to the flat exhumed from the Indian diggings at Gaddis' run.

To sum up the collection shows 61 Trenton specimens with a gravel record, 41 of which hail from one or the other of the river bluffs, 19 from inland cellars and railroad cuts, 4 have the mark of the Gaddis run quarry strongly upon them, 3 have the look of partly finished Indian cache blades, 3 are pointed and with their blunt bases have the marked European character of the "Coup de poing," though by no means specialized up to good examples of the class in Europe; and 29, while they resemble in form the unspecialized shapes from the French and English gravels, are indistinguishable in appearance from the Indian specimens found at the Indian village site of Lower Black's Eddy, and which we have called "Riverside Turtlebacks."

As a class unaccompanied by hammerstones, they are certainly ill-matched, irregular and perplexing. If they furnished some one specialized form like the best of the well-worked Chellean oval blades, or the blunt based Coup de poing, of France, we might hold fast to it as a type but they do not. If they showed signs of use, which not one of them can be said to do, we would hold a valuable clue to the purpose of their manufacture. Still, there is nothing to disprove that some of the water-worn specimens may have been used, and while in form we see plainly that they are not distinguishable from the continual work of the riverside Indian, we have not yet the knowledge to assert that they may not be distinguishable therefrom for other reasons than form.

In short, while we have learned that we may no longer pick up one of these shapes, regardless of its surroundings, and say, "It is ancient," we have found conversely that we may no more pick up its fellow and say "It is modern." We know now that much of the work of the riverside Indian, if not distinguishable from the Trenton specimens is also not distinguishable from much of the work of the European Brit Man, and have felt so strongly that similarity in this very class, this "turtleback" family of forms runs through the stone products of different epochs, that we would carry investigation farther and await the positive evidence of future discovery before venturing to set a time or a birthmark on the Trenton stones.



From, *Times*  
*Phila., Pa.*

Date, *Nov. 15<sup>th</sup> 1893.*

## QUAKERS CELEBRATE

Interesting Exercises Held in the Village  
 of Langhorne.

The Descendants of a Couple Married  
 There a Hundred Years Ago Among  
 Those Celebrating the Event.

Special Telegram to THE TIMES.

LANGHORNE, November 14.

Langhorne was to-day the Mecca toward which was directed the pilgrimages of the Friends of the surrounding country. They came by train and by stage. They came in their own carriages till the meeting house yard was as full as a horse show. They came from Newtown, Wrightstown, Falls and Bensalem, from Bristol, Plymouth, Byberry and Horsam, from the upper part of "Bucks Quarter," from Philadelphia and sections below, and some of them crossed from New Jersey to be present at the gathering.

The Friends resident in Langhorne, save those who remained at home to make culinary preparations for Friends from a distance, joined the throng. They crowded the old Middletown Meeting House, whose centennial they had met to celebrate. They gathered in cheerful and highly conversational groups on its old stone porches and on its wide lawn. And the festive air of the assembly induced one Friend to voice the sentiment of all by remarking that it seemed "just like Quarterly Meeting," which brings hundreds to meet with "the Middletown Friends" at appointed seasons.

### A DAY OF CELEBRATION.

On "eleventh month, fourteenth, 1793," as Quaker chronology expresses it, James Wildman and Rachel Myers were publicly married in Middletown Friends' Meeting House, the event forming part of the first meeting ever held there. The centennial of that date, rather than of the first officially recorded gathering in the new house, the monthly meeting of December 5, 1793, was chosen for celebration and the descendants of James and Rachel Wildman were present to-day to join in the exercises. The numerously signed certificate of that old marriage, yellowed with age, yet still distinct and readable, was exhibited as was also a curious little deed drawn over a century ago to record the meeting's acquisition of a piece of land to be used as a colored burying ground.

The present house is the third erected by the Middletown Meeting, which is one of the oldest established by Friends in this country. As early as 1682 it was held in private houses near Neshaminy, and the first notice of a special building is found in a minute that the forty-first monthly meeting of Neshaminy was held in the meeting house, April 7, 1688. The name Middletown Meeting was first used

in 1706, and the Middletown preparative meeting was established in 1722.

### AN OLD BURIAL GROUND.

A burying ground, supposed to be the nucleus of the property surrounding the present meeting house, was secured in 1690. Between 1718 and 1721 a new meeting house was erected on this land, and in 1760 was enlarged. Needing still more room, it was determined, July 7, 1792, to erect the present building, the specifications being that it should be 72x36 feet, with a "well hole" (the old term for a winding stairway) twelve feet deep, a girder running the whole length of the house seven and one-half feet from the floor, the cost of the house to be about £750. The conditions were followed, the gigantic girder still spans the building, supporting the sloping gallery, and the old-time stairways still wind up to a double row of galleries running across the ends of the house.

At the meeting to-day John Wildman and Mary Watson presided as clerks. The historical exercises appropriate to the occasion were interspersed with recitations and remarks from different friends, the most interesting being those from descendants of the founders of the meeting, giving bits of family history pertinent to the celebration. The opening address was made by Ella C. Ridge. Pierson Mitchell gave the history of the purchases of property by the meeting; John Wildman recounted the history of the buildings; M. Palmer Rich told of the establishment of Middletown meetings, and W. Rodman Paxson gave an account of the educational work of the meeting. In the last connection was read a letter from Judge Fell, who taught in the Friends' school at Langhorne, then Attleboro, at a salary of \$30 per month, in 1860 and 1861. Poems by Robert K. Eastburn, Oliver Fell and Washington Rowe, histories of prominent members of the meeting and of the reforms favored by it, and a number of recitations, completed the exercises.

From, *Intelligencer*  
*Doylestown Pa.*

Date, *Nov. 24<sup>th</sup> 1893.*

### LOCAL HISTORY.

Some Accounts of the Good Family—The  
 Records of Buckingham Meeting—The  
 Plantation of Edward Good in Plum-  
 stead.

In previous sketches concerning New Britain homesteads, mention has been made of various members of the Good family who resided there. The earliest of these was of Thomas Good, who in 1754 bought 231 acres of Francis Richardson, situated in the extreme eastern corner of the old township of New Britain. This purchase now covers a number of properties out Academy Lane, in Doylestown township, extending to the borders of Buckingham, and a mile north-east of Doylestown. It is not known



where Thomas Good had previously lived or the time of his death. He was succeeded by his son of the same name, who in 1762 bought of his father 128 acres, comprising the present Mercer and Meredith properties.

Recently the writer has learned more facts in regard to this Thomas Good, and other members of the family through the researches of Charles F. Jenkins, of Philadelphia. One important point has not yet been revealed, and that is who was the emigrant bearing that name and the time of his coming. It is possible that Thomas Good was such, but at present we have no proof of the fact.

The first record of the family in Bucks county we have found in the minutes of Buckingham Friends' Meeting. One of these of the date of February 4, 1727, says that "Thomas Good's former request of joining himself as a member is accepted." This would indicate that he had been within the bounds of the meeting for some time. Then we have his marriage and the name of his wife in the record of December 2, 1730; "Thomas Good had certificate to marry Mary Jardell, of Abington." In 1743 his name appears as a member of the usual committee of Buckingham meeting. We may presume that he was a young man at the time of his marriage, or not over thirty, so that his birth was not till 1700 or later. It does not appear where he was living between 1727 and 1751, the time of his purchase of the New Britain property. Below we give some further minutes in regard to the descendants of Thomas Good. He had sons, Francis, Edward and Thomas. The latter remained in New Britain, while the two former lived in Plumstead.

1762, November 1. Francis Good had certificate in order to marry Sarah Roberts, of Wrightstown.

1766, June 2. Edward Good and Elinor Harris declared intention of marriage.

1767, May 4. Thomas Good, Jr., and Esther — declared intention of marriage, second time, with consent of parents.

1769, November 6. John Malone and Rachel Good declared intentions of marriage, second time, with consent of parents.

1773, November 4. Francis Good requests that all his children might be looked upon as members of this meeting, which request is approved and they are accepted as members.

1776, January 1. Jonathan Good, of Plumstead Preparatory Meeting, informed that he married out of unity with Friends.

1777, January 6. Jonathan Shaw requests to be relieved from the station of overseer. Meeting nominated Francis Good to succeed him.

1783, June 2. Thomas Good, Jr., is nominated as overseer in place of Francis Good, who requests to be relieved, which is approved by meeting.

1793, April. A committee was appointed to collect school funds. Thomas Good contributed £6 and Edward Good £3.

Pearson Good, of Lahaska, is a grandson of this Edward Good, of Plumstead. The New Britain Goods are descended from Jonathan Good, probably a son of Edward Good.

Extracts of a letter from Albert S. Paxson, of Holicong, to E. F. Jenkins: "I think you will find Edward Good to have

been a Plumstead man, and the Harrises, an old Plumstead family. Edward, his son Nathan, and grandson Pearson were all carpenters, the two latter having had charge of the meeting house at Buckingham since my earliest recollection, more than sixty years ago."

Joseph Good, second son of Thomas Good, moved from Plumstead to Chester county, and married Martha Michener. Among his children were: Joseph, born September 30, 1815; Eleanor, born 1811, March 3, died December 20, 1881; Charles, born March 16, 1807. Of these Jesse married Amanda Townsend, daughter of William Townsend and Letitia Fell. They have ten children. Eleanor Good married Dr. William Watson Townsend, brother of Amanda mentioned above. They resided in Bridesburg, and had ten children. Charles Good married Betsey Moore, in 1838. Resided in Little Britain township, Lancaster county, until 1854, when they removed to Ohio. They had seven children, six of whom married.

ADDITIONAL FROM BUCKINGHAM RECORDS.  
1792, February 15, Jonathan Good married Letitia Kirkbride.

1803, October 13, Margaret Good, daughter of Edward, married James Quinby.

Extract from a letter from Jesse Good, of West Grove, Chester county, December 2d, 1891. "I am a son of Joseph Good, who moved from Plumstead, Bucks county, when a young man. His father, Thomas Good, purchased a tract of land (400 acres) in this neighborhood and moved here with his family in the latter part of the 18th century. His sons were Jesse (my father); Joseph, Robert and Thomas. Only 100 acres (which I claim) of my grandfather's tract are now owned by a Good."

Jonathan, son of Edward and Eleanor Good, married Letitia, daughter of Robert and Hannah (Bidgood) Kirkbride, in 1798. They resided in Falls township and had four children, as follows: Anna, born December 10, 1798; Eleanor, born 1800, September 13, died unmarried; Robert, born September 13, 1802, died unmarried; Letitia, born April 4, 1805. Anna Good, above mentioned, died March 3d, 1885, at the Home for Incurables, Philadelphia. She married 1st, Rufus Bacon, of New York. They resided in New England and had one child, Sarah Bacorn. The second marriage was to ——— Callan. They resided in New Hope, Bucks county; no children. Letitia Good married David Brelstord. They lived in Bridesburg and had four children, viz: Edward, who married and lives in Bridesburg and has children; Joseph, who also married and lives in Bridesburg, has children; Rufus also married and a resident of Bridesburg; John, who died unmarried.

Francis Good, born June 8th, 1776, son of Francis Good and Sarah Roberts, married Rachel, daughter of Thomas Fell and Grace Perry. Francis died March 31, 1851 and Rachel in 1846. They resided in New Garden township, Chester county, and had no children.

Anna W. Good, daughter of Nathan Good and Mary McKenney, born September 11th, 1819, died January 18th, 1876. She married Preston Price, son of John and Elizabeth Price. They resided in Solebury and had seven children.

In 1767, Francis Good, of Plumstead, gave a mortgage to Thomas Smith and



Joseph Watson for £50, which mortgage was satisfied in 1785. The boundary of his farm of 54 acres in 1767 were, "Beginning in line of Joseph Michener; thence by Jonathan Shaw southwest 77 perches to Street road; thence by same and William Michener, Jr., northwest 113 perches; thence by late John Conard and Meschach Michener northeast 77 perches;

thence by Meschach Michener and Joseph Michener southeast 113 perches to beginning." This homestead was situated in the southern part of the township.

#### THE HOMESTEAD OF EDWARD GOOD, PLUMSTEAD.

The home of Edward Good, was situated on the east side of the Ferry road a few hundred yards northeast of the hamlet of Fountainville. The place is now owned by Samuel Gross. It is a pretty farmstead, the meadow green with grass and grain in front, maples surrounding the dwelling, water and orchard in the rear. The buildings are modern, having been erected by Samuel and William Gross, some twenty years ago. A rivulet flows in front, running westward to join the north branch of the Neshaminy. The new buildings succeeded an old fashioned two-story house, of other days. Some of the old farm has been detached, and it now comprises about fifty-eight acres.

This farm was acquired before the Revolution in 1772, when he bought 70 acres of John Childs for £281. In early Colonial times it had been part of a Child's tract of large dimensions. In 1739 Henry Child, of Annapolis county, Maryland, made a deed of gift to his son Cephas, of one thousand acres in Plumstead. Cephas Child disposed of a considerable part of this before he made his will of March 3, 1756. In this will he devised a certain part, comprising two hundred acres to his son, John Child. So, for all we know to the contrary, the site of the present Gross buildings was the home of Cephas Child before the middle of the last century. The boundary in 1773 was: Beginning at corner of Jonathan Rich's land on road called New Ferry road; then along said road and by said Cephas Child's other lane southwest 37 perches, and again southwest 93 perches; then along said road by Everard Conard's, south 40 perches, and southwest 70 perches; then by other land of John Child southeast 83 perches to line of Abraham Freed; then by same and by William Erwin, northeast 147 perches to beginning. This deed was witnessed by Henry Child and John Child before Benjamin Mathews, Esq.

In 1775, Edward Good bought an adjoining lot of Arthur Ewing comprising 14 acres lying on the southeast side. So he had 84 acres. When the Buckingham meeting house was rebuilt in 1768, Edward Good did the carpenter work. Edward Good lived on this farm for forty years or till his death in September, 1812. In his will he left to his wife Eleanor the use and income of his plantation, (whereon I now dwell,) besides a horse, cows and farming implements; also, \$150. Mention is made of daughters Eleanor, Jane, Ganior, Hutchins, Margaret, and Mary Quinby. The sons were John, Nathan, Jonathan and Edward. There were ten children in all, not all of which are here named.

As many as fifteen years elapsed after the death of Edward Good ere his farm was sold. This was in 1827, when his executors conveyed it to their sister, Eleanor Good, who bought it at public sale in December, 1826, for \$21.25 per acre. It was then bounded by the Ferry road and the lands of John Good, Jonathan Rich, John Gross and Abraham Myers, and comprised eighty acres. In 1833 Eleanor Good sold it to Jonathan Carr. In 1846 Carr sold 68 acres, part of the whole, to Jacob Overholt, who, in 1862 conveyed it to John Fretz. There were a succession of several owners after Fretz. Among whom were John Bolinger, James B. Jardine, Aquilla Derrickson and others. The Gross brothers improved the property greatly, and one of these, Samuel Gross, is now the owner. In the will of Edward Good a legacy was left to his grandchild, Eleanor, daughter of his son, Jonathan. The latter was the ancestor of the family by that name now living near New Britain village. Jonathan Good, son of Edward, bought in 1791, a portion of the lands of Thomas Morris in the Pine Run valley, comprising fifty-five acres, where the family lived for three generations. E. M.

From, *Intelligencer*  
*Doylestown Pa.*

Date, *Dec. 4<sup>th</sup> 1893,*

#### MIDDLETOWN MEETING CENTENNIAL.

The Business Meetings — Prepared for and Read at the Centennial Memorial Meeting, at Langhorne, Pa., Eleventh-month 14, 1893, by Mark Palmer Rich.

In a letter written by William Penn to Friends in England, dated 1st mo. 17, 1683, he says of the meetings in Bucks county "There is one at Falls, one at Pennsbury Manor, one at Colchester River. There is one Monthly Meeting of women and men for truth's service, at Falls, and we intend a Yearly Meeting in 3d mo. next."

This Yearly Meeting appears to have been held in the 7th mo. instead of 3d mo. and at this time it was agreed, for the ease and benefit of Friends of Bucks county, "to divide the Monthly Meeting at Falls, one part to be held at Neshaminy and the other part on the river Delaware and that the two should meet together once every quarter." This was done and the first quarter was held at the home of William Biles, 7th of 3d mo., 1684.

The first Monthly Meeting held at Neshaminy was at the house of Nicholas Waln, who lived on the farm now owned by William P. Mitchell, 11th mo. 1st, 1683. Meetings for worship were held as early as 1682 at private houses and they together with the Monthly Meetings continued to be so held until 1688 when the



first meeting house was built at Neshaminy. This was then called Neshaminy Meeting. It is first mentioned as Middletown Meeting in 1706.

The preparative meeting was established in 1722.

In 1686 Friends of Southampton asked that they might have a meeting settled among them. Accordingly there was held a general meeting once a month at James Dilworth's and weekly meetings at the homes of other Friends. In this year Wrightstown Friends also asked for a meeting for the better accommodation of Friends among them. Their request was granted and meetings held in private families until 1721 when the meeting house was built.

The following year a preparative meeting was granted them.

In 1782 Friends of Newtown requested the privilege of holding a meeting every two weeks during the winter season, as the distance to Middletown was too great. This plan was adopted and became the custom every winter until in 1815 an indulged meeting was granted them. Two years later the meeting was regularly established with the privilege of a preparative meeting which was then joined to Wrightstown.

When in 1820 Makefield Monthly Meeting was formed by a division of Falls, Newtown became a constituent of it.

Meetings for worship were held at the Falls as early as 1680, all Friends above Bristol attending meetings for business at Burlington, N. J.

Prior to 1778, Bristol Friends belonged to Falls Monthly Meeting. At their own request they were then transferred to Middletown and it was agreed that all the property which the Bristol Meeting was in possession of should be held and enjoyed by that meeting from 3d-month, 1857, to 6th-month, 1873. The Monthly Meetings were held alternately at Middletown and Bristol. After the latter date, in compliance with a request from Bristol Friends, their meeting was constructed a Monthly Meeting, called Bristol Monthly Meeting of Friends. So it severed its connection with Middletown Monthly Meeting.

Of the meetings established by this Monthly Meeting all are still meeting regularly except the one at Southampton. Of that little is known. No record is found in the books at hand, of the laying down of the meeting, but it probably was done many years ago.

It is a matter of doubt whether they ever built a meeting house.

From, *Atter*

*Attertown Pa.*

Date, *Dec. 13" 1893.*

#### A Historic Chestnut Tree.

The old chestnut tree that stood on the Paxson farm in New Hope, Bucks county, has been cut down to make room for improvements. The tree was over 150 years old. It stood within a few feet of the old York road, and tradition says it was under this tree that Washington, Green, Knox and others planned the attack on the Hessians at Trenton.

From, *News*

*Huntingdon Pa.*

Date, *Dec. 16" 1893.*

#### Sale of a Historical Farm.

Just before the battle of Trenton, Washington had his headquarters in a stone house with a peat roof on the Keith estate in Upper Markland township. Bucks county. From there, Christmas night of 1776, he crossed the Delaware and won the victory at Trenton, which led Frederick the Great, years after, to send him a portrait of himself with the words, "From the oldest general in Europe to the greatest general in the world." The old stone house and the estate to which it belongs were sold a few days ago by the heirs of John S. Keith to Dr. John S. Paxson, of Jennerstown. The estate consists of 231 acres and it brought \$34 an acre. The house shows hardly any signs of change since it was built in 1763. The same peat roof that sheltered Washington shelters the present occupants. Even the hangings of the room which Washington lived in are just as they were then. The property was bought from the London company by William Keith a few years before Washington made it famous.

From, *Quiner*

*Phila. Pa.*

Date, *Jan. 12" 1894.*

#### The Doan Family of Highwaymen.

From the Doylestown Democrat.

J. K. Hallowell, proprietor of the Horsesham Hotel, has an ancient firearm about which there is considerable historical interest. He claims that it is the weapon with which Robert Gibson shot Moses Doan, in Plumstead, in 1783, while surprised when eating in the house of one Halser, on Gallows Run. The pistol is in good preservation and from its cumbersome nature is suggestive of a rifle barrel of octagonal rifling. Mr. Hallowell says the relic was made a present to him by Albanus Marple, of Hattboro, who secured it from Anna Conard, an aged lady, who, it is claimed, received it from William Hart, who was one of the investigators of the great outlaw's death.



From, *Intelligencer*

*Doylestown Pa.*

Date, *Jan. 19<sup>th</sup> 1894.*

#### An Historical Letter.

In tearing down an old dwelling house at Danborough, workmen unearthed a letter, yellow with age, which proved to have been written in Philadelphia during the War of 1812, and was addressed by one P. Gourley to his mother. The epistle, which is as legible as if it had just been written, is taken up with the strife then raging between the United States and England, and says: "Men of all ranks are ordered out, and those who disobey have a file of men sent after them, just as our neighbors, Messrs. Rose, Patterson, Kenderline and several others, were marched down to camp last Sunday night 19 miles. Provisions of all kinds are on the rise. There is nothing doing here. A great number of stores and houses are shut up. Many people have moved to the country till this unhappy war is over. If the English come here as they have already to Baltimore it will add greatly to the distress of the citizens. Fortifications are building around the city, and the men that are left in the city are sent out to work by the Governor on set days."

From, *Intelligencer*

*Doylestown Pa.*

Date, *Jan. 22<sup>nd</sup> 1894.*

#### Another Revolutionary Land Mark Gone From Bucks County.

A week or two since, to make room for improvements, was cut down the old historic chestnut tree, known as "The Washington Tree," which has stood for 150 years upon the Paxson estate, a few feet to the north of the old York Road in New Hope borough, says the *Lambertville Record*.

This grand old tree measured 22 feet in circumference; and though many of its limbs were dead, reached out far upon either side, making grateful shade in the long summer days from the noontide sun. Had it ears, eyes and tongue, much could it have told of Revolutionary days, for before it on many occasions, passed the Continental army in full array, as they entered into and were driven from New Jersey. Nearly every foot of this part of Bucks county is full of interest to the student and lover of Revolutionary lore, for the whole section abounds in historic incident, connected with Colonial and Revolutionary days. New Hope, at the time of the Revolution, was known as "Coryell's Ferry," and from Coryell's Ferry are dated many letters from Washington, and other of his prominent generals.

During the war, troops were quartered here upon various occasions, and at the time of the battle of Trenton in 1776, this whole district of country was held by the Continental forces. New Hope itself at this period was in a state of armed defence under General William Alexander—more commonly known as Lord Stirling—who threw up a strong redoubt on top the hill, across the pond in a south-westerly direction from "The Old Parry Mansion," and a part of that estate. Lord Sterling also had another redoubt thrown up on the "Old York Road," at the corner of Bridge and Ferry streets—opposite where *The Old Washington Tree* stood. These, with stockade entrenchments, and batteries placed just above the Ferry landing, on the river bank, north of the Old York Road, constituted the defences of New Hope in 1776 from what General Washington evidently anticipated—an advance movement of a portion of the British army at that time.

The old hip-roof house, recently taken down (and which was immediately opposite the long avenue leading into the Paxson estate), was known as "The old Fort," and is said to have been used as Lord Stirling's headquarters, while his soldiers were stationed at New Hope. Here Washington met his Generals Green and Alexander (Lord Stirling), and here it is also said—under *The Old Washington Tree*, they first planned the Battle of Trenton. Washington had his own headquarters a few miles below New Hope (Coryell's ferry), at the Keith homestead, and doubtless on many an occasion halted under this ancient tree to confer with General Stirling, whose earth-works were here, and up the hillside beyond. On Christmas, 1776, Dr. Charles Todd, of New Hope, (then a young lad), watching at the intersection of the old York road and the Trenton or River road where the "Old Parry Mansion" stands—witnessed the Continental troops march around the corner into the Trenton road—and down it with hurrying steps to a point below, on the Delaware river, now known as "Washington's Crossing," where, crossing over that night in boats, they early on the morning of December 26th, advanced upon the city of Trenton and fought and won that famous engagement, which has passed into history as the battle of Trenton.

Many of the boats used at Washington's Crossing had been collected at New Hope and kept secreted behind Malta Island—and whence they were floated by night to the former place, and used for transportation of the army. Lord Cornwallis was informed that boats were being collected at New Hope ("Coryell's Ferry"), and sent troops to what is now Lambertville, New Jersey, the opposite side of the Delaware river, to seize them; but the soldiers were apparently afraid to cross over, in the face of the frowning batteries which were placed on the river's bank at New Hope.

Gen. Benedict Arnold, the traitor, was at Coryell's Ferry, on June 16, 1777, and wrote General Washington from there; and on July 29, 1777, we find the honored and lamented Alexander Hamilton (then a captain of artillery), who was killed by Aaron Burr in their memorable duel, writing to Hon. Robert Morris from the same place.

Col. James Monroe, afterwards President of the United States, was quartered in Dec. 1776, on the Neeley farm, just below New Hope.



From, *Intelligencer*

Doylestown Pa.

Date, Jan. 31<sup>st</sup> 1894.

## SOLDIERS OF THE REVOLUTION.

The Enrollment in Warrington in the War for Independence--The Veterans Were

Nearly all of Scottish Origin.

*[From Penna. Archives, Vol. XIV.]*

The enrollment of Warrington, taken in 1775, contains but a short list of names, for the township then was much smaller than now. The upper third portion of its area was added in 1849, when taken from New Britain. Before that it only extended to a short distance above Tradesville. A short line of two miles from the Bristol road at this point to the Brick church, represents the former upper boundary. The list of Non-Associators were not accessible to the writer, so the names given are only those belonging to the militia company.

These names are nearly all of Scottish origin. One, Detteline, is German, and another is Dutch. The name of Long has long been identified with Warrington, and that family lived near Neshaminy. John Craig kept the tavern at Newville, but his name was probably in the list of Non-Associators. One of the Beatty family, Rev. Charles, had been pastor of Neshaminy, but died in 1774. The Walkers were probably sons of a noted Colonial squire, Richard Walker, who lived at the extreme north corner of the old township, where is now the premises of Philip R. Brunner. There were several Ritchies and Wiers. George Ritchie, who lived in Moreland, was a soldier of the Revolution, and lived for over forty years later to tell tales of his hardships in a British prison ship. The officers of the militia company were: William Walker, captain; William Robinson, first lieutenant; James Crawford, second lieutenant, Andrew McKee, ensign.

### PRIVATEs.

James Beatty	Charles Morrow
John Beatty	Andrew Mackey
Hugh Beatty	William Melloy
Thomas Craig	Robert Miller
William Crawford	John Rider Polk
Robert Davidson	Alexander Parker
William Detteline	John Ritchie
Robert Ellet	Thomas Ritchie
John Ellet	David Ritchie
Andrew Gregg	William Robinson
William Gregg	John Robinson
Jonathan Geary	Hugh Ramsay
James Huston	John Spear
William Huston	Thomas Taylor
Henry Huston	Abraham VanDyke
Andrew Hall	John Wier
Andrew Long	Robert Wier
Andrew Long, Jr.	William Walker
John Harmer Leer	Robert Walker
William Long	John Wallace
Edward Liddle	Andrew Wallace
Francis Jedon	Robert Watts
Matthew Knox	James Whiteside.

E. M.

From, *Intelligencer*

Doylestown Pa.

Date, Feb. 2<sup>nd</sup> 1894.

## THE BEATTY FAMILY.

THEIR SCOTTISH ANCESTOR EMIGRATED TO AMERICA IN 1729.

A Paper Read before the Bucks County Historical Society, at Doylestown, January 16, 1894, by Rev. D. K. Turner, of Hartsville.

It is not uncommon to observe the excellences or unworthy traits of parents developed in many of their posterity. Peculiarities pass down from ancestors to generations following. The principle of heredity prevails extensively in all branches of animated nature, and in none perhaps more than in the human race. Characteristics accompany the strain of the blood, sometimes concealed and almost extinguished by unpropitious surroundings, and again coming forth after an interval with close resemblance to the original.

This fact is illustrated in the history of the family of Rev. Charles Beatty, who commenced his pastorate at Neshaminy Presbyterian Church in 1743, one hundred and fifty years ago. As just about a century and a half has elapsed since he began his protracted labors there, and as he was one of the most distinguished and useful citizens of our county, it seems not inappropriate to refresh our minds on this occasion with some recollections of him and of his family.

The name "Beatty" is supposed to be derived from the Latin word "beatus," happy, and is found with various forms of spelling in England, Scotland and Ireland, where different branches from one principal stock have in the course of time been located. The father of Rev. Charles Beatty was John Beatty, who in 1640 resided in County Antrim in the North of Ireland, whither his progenitors had removed from Scotland. He was an officer in the British Army, and is said to have been a noble looking man, with a fine military bearing. At one of the stations, where he was located in the discharge of his duty as a soldier, he became acquainted with Christianna Clinton, to whom he subsequently united in marriage.

Her grandfather, Wm. Clinton was of English parentage, and in the struggle between the Parliament and Charles I. adhered to the cause of the latter, and was an officer in the royal army.

After the defeat and execution of the King he fled to Scotland, but soon passed



ver to Ireland and settled in the County Longford, where he died, leaving a son, James, only two years old. When James had reached maturity, he went to England to secure some property, which had belonged to his father, but was unsuccessful, being barred by the statute of limitations. But though he failed to recover the paternal real estate, he found Miss Elizabeth Smith, the daughter of a captain in the army of Cromwell, who consented to join her fortunes to his in the bonds of matrimony. With her he received some pecuniary means, and maintained a reputable standing in the green isle, which had given him birth.

This alliance was crowned with at least two children, Christianna, who married John Beatty and Charles, who was the ancestor of the Clintons, celebrated in the history of the State of New York. Christianna lost her husband in Ireland, at what time is unknown, and was left a widow with four children. Her brother, Charles Clinton, hoping to secure larger prosperity and more religious freedom in the new world, determined to emigrate to Pennsylvania. He and some of his friends chartered a ship in Dublin, commanded by Captain Ryner, for the voyage across the Atlantic. His sister and her family accompanying him, they set sail for Philadelphia May 20, 1729. The captain bound by a written contract to take them to their destined ports, but either unfortunately or by design the voyage was unusually lengthened, lasting five months, and the western continent did not appear in view till the latter part of October. They suffered for want of provisions, and were reduced at last to the verge of starvation, each person receiving during twenty four hours, only half a biscuit and half a pint of water. Many of the passengers died from hardships and privation, among them a son and daughter of Mr. Clinton, and Mrs. Beatty's eldest daughter. It was believed by some, that the captain contrived to render the passage long and extremely severe, that the emigrants might perish and their property fall into his hands, or that he had been bribed, that emigration might be discouraged. When land was sighted, it proved to be Cape Cod in New England.

He was persuaded to disembark the survivors of the ship's company at a port in Massachusetts. In that region they remained through all the following year, and not finding a place altogether suited to their wants there, they removed in the spring of 1731 to Ulster county, N. Y., about eight miles from the Hudson river and sixty miles from the city. There Mr. Clinton fixed his residence with his wife and a daughter born in Ireland, and had four sons born in this country. One of them was George Clinton, general in the Revolutionary Army, and for eighteen years Governor of the State of New York. Another was James, the father of DeWitt Clinton, the projector of the Erie canal, likewise Governor of New York, and Senator of the United States.

Mrs. Beatty and her family remained near her brother Charles for some time, but at length she married James Scott, of New York City, and removed thither, where she resided till her death in 1776, when she was in the 91st year of her age. She was a lady of great refinement, of dignified and courteous manners, neat and tasteful in her dress, fond of music,

performing skillfully upon the harp, and endowed with a vigorous intellect. All her offspring, who were children of her first husband, Mr. Beatty, were born in Ireland. Elizabeth died at sea on the voyage to this country. Another daughter, Mary, married a Mr. Gregg, and another, Martha, who is said to have possessed remarkable personal beauty, was married to a Mr. McMillan. She found her home with her mother in the old lady's declining years, and probably inherited her property, as none of it came to her brother Charles' children.

Charles Beatty, the eldest son of John and Christianna Beatty, appears to have remained with his relatives in Ulster county, N. Y., during most of his youth, and assisted his uncle, Charles Clinton, in cutting down the forests with which the country was then covered, and in cultivating the virgin soil. He was under most favorable moral and religious influences and grew up with an established character of virtue and integrity. Either in Ireland or in America, he was trained in the various branches of an English education and in the Latin language. About the time that he arrived at his majority he set out to provide for himself as an itinerant trader. Probably obtaining a supply of goods in New York, where his mother, Mrs. Scott, resided, he traveled on foot through New Jersey, vending his wares to the scattered families with which the territory was thinly peopled. On account of the infrequency of villages, where stores could be maintained, his employment was more useful and was regarded as more honorable than at the present day. One day he came to the door of "Log College," as it was called, an institution founded by Rev. William Tennent, Sr., near Hartsville, in this county, for the education of young men for the ministry of the Presbyterian church. This school was established because its founder perceived the great need in our new and growing country of a larger number of pious preachers than the colleges of Great Britain or New England could supply.

He believed that a thorough university training, however desirable, was not absolutely necessary to success in the sacred calling. The venerable man met young Beatty at the door and greatly to his surprise was addressed by him in correct Latin. After some conversation, finding that he had acquired the rudiments of classical learning and appeared earnest in his religious principles, Mr. Tennent said, to him "Go, sell the contents of your pack and come and study with me." His youthful visitor followed his advice after consultation with his relatives, pursued the knowledge of science and theology under his care, and ultimately became his successor in the pastoral office at Neshaminy.

Mr. Beatty however was not the minister of the whole congregation. A division took place in the general Synod of the Presbyterian Church in 1741 between two parties, denominated the "Old Lights" and the "New Lights." The former were opposed to the admission to the ranks of the clergy of any but those who had received a complete training in a university, while the latter deemed the want of ministers in the land so imperative, that in cases in which other qualifications were sufficient, the lack of a



college diploma ought not to bar the way to the pulpit. The "New Lights" favored the work and measures of Whitfield and his friends; the "Old Lights" denounced them as the fruit of fanaticism and delusion. Mr. Tennent advocated the views of the "New Lights," and Mr. Beatty cordially sympathized with him. The congregation at Neshaminy was not entirely harmonious.

When Mr. Tennent, in 1743, became incapacitated by age for the duties of a pastor, Mr. Beatty was invited to take his place and was installed over the part of the congregation which adhered to the "New Lights," and they built a new house of worship on the site occupied by the present church. The other portion of the congregation chose Rev. Francis McHenry as their pastor, who faithfully served them and the people at Deep Run at the same time until his death in 1757. After the reunion of the two synods, in 1758, Mr. McHenry's flock at Neshaminy became gradually merged in that of Mr. Beatty. Rev. F. McHenry was the great-grandfather of Charles McHenry, now residing in Doylestown.

Mr. Beatty was an earnest and zealous preacher, and took a deep interest in missionary operations, particularly among the Indians. David Brainerd's labors among the sons of the forest in New Jersey and the forks of the Delaware awakened in his mind sentiments of warmest approval. In 1745, when Brainerd visited Philadelphia to consult the Governor upon his labors for the aborigines, he sojourned with Mr. Beatty, both going and returning, and formed a most favorable opinion of his spirit and his abilities. At a communion season in June of the same year Brainerd preached at Neshaminy, by previous arrangement, when, it is said, between two and three thousand persons were assembled, and many were visibly affected. In 1746 Brainerd's health had become greatly impaired, and he was compelled to leave New Jersey.

Shortly before his departure Mr. Beatty and his wife paid him a farewell visit, to which the invalid refers in his private journal as a source of much gratification. Not only was Mr. Beatty faithful and attentive to the wants of his own particular flock, but he was usually present and took an active part in ecclesiastical councils with which he was associated. The Synod of New York and Philadelphia elected him moderator in 1764, and the next year he opened its session with the annual sermon. In 1750 he made a missionary tour through south Jersey, going as far as Cape May, preaching frequently on the way, with the approval of the Synod, to which body he gave an account of the circumstances and wants of the people in that region. In 1754 he went with several other clergymen, by appointment of Synod, to Virginia and North Carolina and was absent from home about three months, afterwards presenting a report of his work to those who had sent him.

A warm patriot, he was anxious to do all in his power for the defence of his country and the protection of her citizens in time of danger. At three different times he served as chaplain with Pennsylvania troops in the struggle of the French and Indians with the English. The first was soon after the savages had destroyed the Moravian village of Gnadenhuetten on the Lehigh, when the expe-

dition was under the command of the philosopher, Benjamin Franklin. They set out in January, 1756, but Franklin soon gave up the charge of the soldiers to Col. Clapham, and Mr. Beatty returned home before spring. The same year he was commissioned by Lieut. Gov. Morris, of Pennsylvania, to act in a similar capacity with a military force, which was to penetrate into the interior of the State.

He kept a journal of his labors and experiences during his absence at this time, in which he says, he left May 3d, and was accompanied as far as the Schuylkill by his elders and some other friends. The diary closes the last of July, and about that date, when the colonel gave him a furlough to return with batteaux that were going to Harris, now Harrisburg, and he accepted the opportunity and came home. His fidelity in reproving the troops for their profanity and loose morals appears to have been distasteful to not a few of the officers and men, and they doubtless secretly rejoiced when they saw the boats turned down stream that bore him from among them. In 1758 a large army having been raised to attack Fort Duquesne, Mr. Beatty at the request of Gen. Armstrong was commissioned chaplain of the whole force by Lieut. Gov. William Denny. They marched west through the wilderness, fording streams and crossing mountains, where no sign of human habitation met their eyes, and where they might be waylaid by the enemy in ambush. Before reaching the Allegheny river they were attacked by a considerable body of the French, but repulsed them, forcing them to retreat toward their fortification. Pushing on the next day after the foe, they ere long came to the fort, but found it evacuated and partly destroyed by fire. The enemy had become convinced that they could not hold the place against the advancing army, and had entered boats and gone down the Ohio. The Americans took possession of the empty citadel and effectually terminated the efforts of the French to drive out the English from the valley of the Mississippi. Here Mr. Beatty preached a sermon of thanksgiving to God before the whole army, which was probably the first Protestant sermon ever delivered in that magnificent territory, which had long been the prize contended for by two mighty nations. In 1759 he was invited to engage in a similar work, but the

Synod advised him to decline, as his congregation needed his pastoral care.

Soon after the reunion of the "Old" and "New Lights" in 1758 a scheme was adopted by the Synod to provide a fund for the benefit of aged or deceased ministers and their needy families. Mr. Beatty was on the committee to draw up a plan, which included also help for destitute mission fields. It was thought best that some one should go to Great Britain and Ireland to solicit pecuniary aid for this benevolent fund, and as Dr. John Rodgers, of New York, who was first appointed, could not make the journey, Mr. Beatty was selected in his stead. He sailed for Europe in the spring of 1760 and was absent till the summer of 1761, the Synod supplying his pulpit left temporarily vacant. He visited Ireland, Scotland and England, was at the coronation of George III, was present at Court, and received from the King a handsome donation to the fund. His mission proved highly creditable to



himself, and advantageous to the objects he had mainly in view. He afterwards crossed the ocean again with his wife on account of her health, between 1767 and 1769, being away nearly two years. But his beloved companion did not return with him. Her decease took place at Greenock, Scotland, March 25, 1768, where her remains lie buried, together with those of an infant daughter but a few days old.

In 1766, by direction of Synod, Mr Beatty and Rev. George Duffield, of Carlisle, made a tour among the western settlements and the Indian tribes for preaching and surveying their religious condition. From Carlisle to Pittsburg they pursued the journey by two different routes. Meeting at the latter town, in which there were not then more than thirty houses besides the forts, they crossed the Allegheny river in a canoe, "swimming their horses at its side." Continuing along the Ohio till they passed the Beaver river, thence southwest through the primeval forest, they came to the principal town of the Delawares, 120 miles west of Pittsburg, in the present State of Ohio. They held many conferences with the Indians, and Mr. Beatty preached his first sermon to them through an interpreter on the parable of the Prodigal Son. Mr. Duffield also spoke to them, and Mr. Beatty again a day or two after. The journey occupied two months, and was extremely fatiguing, being made on horse back through the woods, and over streams without bridges, but it gave them much information about the natives, which they embodied in a report to the Synod, that was very gratifying to that body.

Mr. Beatty was a trustee of the College of New Jersey at Princeton, elected in 1763, and was one of its warmest friends. The institution was in its childhood and needed larger resources than this country, just emerging from the wars with the French and the Indians, could furnish. It was deemed important that aid should be solicited in the West Indies, some portions of which were occupied by British planters, men of wealth. Dr. John Witherspoon, the president who was first requested to undertake the duty, being unable to leave his post, Mr. Beatty was appointed and consented to serve on what proved to him a fatal mission.

He arrived at the island of Barbadoes June 6th and died August 13, 1772, stricken with the malady so prevalent in the summer in that latitude, the yellow fever. There in the cemetery at Bridgeton his remains are interred. As a public speaker he was ready, fluent and impressive, and seldom made use of a manuscript. Gentlemanly in his manners, pleasing in his personal appearance and address, he commanded respect and made friends wherever he went. He was useful, active and influential in his parish, in society, in the judicatories of the church and in the affairs of the country.

He was married in 1746 to Ann, daughter of John Reading, president of the Council of New Jersey and afterwards Governor of the Province. They had eleven children, two of whom died quite young. Nine reached maturity and most of them married and left a numerous posterity, who are scattered far and wide over the land. I will attempt, for want of time, to give only a few particulars in regard to some of them.

1. Mary Beatty, Rev. Charles Beatty's

eldest daughter, at the age of 23 married Rev. Enoch Green, pastor of the Presbyterian church at Deerfield, N. J. He served as a chaplain in the army of the Revolution, and while acting in that capacity was attacked with camp fever and died, after being in the ministry ten years. Like many others he gave his life for his country. His widow resided many years near Trenton, N. J., on the farm of her father-in-law, which subsequently became the property of herself and her sons. In 1821 she removed to Philadelphia, where her long life terminated in 1842, when she was in the 96th year of her age. During the seven years of the Revolutionary contest she abstained through patriotic motives from the use of tea, though fond of the exhilarating beverage. She had three children, two sons and a daughter. One of her son, William, when a young man served in the militia in quelling the insurrection of "The Whiskey Boys" in Western Pennsylvania. Her other son, Charles Beatty Green, studied law and settled in Natchez, Mississippi, where he acquired an extensive practice, and was chosen a member of the House of Representatives of the State, and continued to be a member either of the House or the Senate many years. He filled also other offices in the State, both civil and military, and was extensively known as "General Green."

*To be Continued.*

From, *Intelligence*  
*Doylestown Pa.*  
Date, *Feb. 6" 1894.*

## THE BEATTY FAMILY.

THEIR SCOTTISH ANCESTOR EMIGRATED  
TO AMERICA IN 1729.

A Paper Read before the Bucks County  
Historical Society, at Doylestown, Jan-  
uary 16, 1894, by Rev. D. K. Turner,  
of Hartsville.

*Continued from last Friday.*

2. John Beatty, Rev. Mr. Beatty's oldest son, graduated at Princeton in 1769, with the first class that took their bachelor's degree under the presidency of Dr. Witherspoon. He studied medicine with Dr. Rush, of Philadelphia, in 1770 and 1771, and commenced the practice of his profession at Hartsville, Bucks county, in Neshaunig congregation, in 1772. His father's death took place that year. He was one of the executors of the will, and the care and management of the estate occupied much of his attention. In 1774 he married Mary Longstreet, whose home was near Princeton, and he soon moved to that town. When the war with Great Britain commenced in



1775, he joined the army as captain and rose to the rank of major, but was taken prisoner at the surrender of Fort Washington in November, 1776, and detained in severe and rigorous confinement till May, 1778, a period of eighteen months, when he was exchanged. In a few weeks, on the resignation of Dr. E. Boudinot, as Commissary General of Prisoners, Major Beatty was appointed to his place and promoted to the rank of Colonel. In 1780 he resigned and was honorably discharged from the service, when he returned to Princeton and resumed the practice of medicine. He did not confine himself, however, to his profession but mingled in public affairs. He represented New Jersey in the Continental Congress in 1783 and 1785, and in the Federal Congress in 1793-5. He was a member of the State Legislature and Speaker of the Assembly. In 1795 he was chosen by the Legislature, Secretary of State, and held the office ten years. In military life he held a conspicuous position, being brigadier general of militia, which gave him the title by which he was afterwards known, General Beatty.

The Trenton Delaware Bridge Company, organized in 1803, chose him its president, and he superintended the erection of that most important structure which was on the direct route from Philadelphia to New York, which united New Jersey and Pennsylvania, and which was at that day considered both in England and America a remarkable work, being on a new plan. During the building of it he resided at South Trenton, near the terminus, and daily watched and guided its progress. A spectator at its opening in 1805, said, "Well do I remember his tall and commanding appearance when he led the great procession that was formed to inaugurate its first crossing." He was president of the Trenton Banking Company, a trustee of the college at Princeton, and a trustee in the first Presbyterian church of Trenton.

His death occurred in 1826, when he was in his 78th year. He was married twice and had two children by his first wife, a son and daughter. One of his grandchildren, Catharine Lonisa Beatty, a young lady of unusual ability and piety, in 1861 went to India as a missionary under the directions of the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions, and for nine years was at the head of a large seminary for girls, in which position of exhausting labor her health failed, and she passed away in 1870 much lamented.

3. Elizabeth Beatty, Rev. Charles Beatty's fourth child, married Rev. Philip V. Fithian, a native of Greenwich, N. J. He graduated at Princeton in 1772, and was appointed chaplain in the Revolutionary army in 1776. It is said, that at the battle of White Plains he fought in the ranks. Soon after, exposure brought on the dysentery and he died in the autumn of the same year.

Mrs. Elizabeth Fithian, after her husband's death, married his cousin, Joel Fithian, Esq., and several of her grandchildren were in the Union army in the late struggle with the Confederate States.

4. Charles Clinton Beatty, Rev. C. Beatty's sixth child, graduated at Princeton, in 1775, and entered the army of the Revolution with a commission in a Pennsylvania regiment. In the expedition against Canada he was with Gen. Wayne, and in November, 1776, was one

of the garrison of Fort Ticonderoga. During the winter or spring he came south, and while with a body of troops at Moore's tavern, near Chester, Pa., he was showing a fine rifle he had just bought, to one of his brother officers, when the latter, taking it in his hand, and not knowing it was loaded, pointed it at the former and said, "I will shoot you, Beatty!" The trigger fell, the bullet pierced his heart, and he fell dead. The officer was overwhelmed with grief and dismay, and could never allude to the tragic occurrence, though he lived to old age, without the most sad and distressing emotions. The remains of the unfortunate young man were interred in the Old Chester burying ground.

5. Reading Beatty, the seventh child of Rev. C. Beatty, named for his mother's father, John Reading, after pursuing the study of medicine with his brother John at Neshaminy and with Dr. Moses Scott, of New Brunswick, N. J., enlisted in 1775 in his country's military service as a private soldier, but was soon made sergeant, then ensign, then lieutenant, and during the campaign of 1776, in consequence of the sickness of his superior officer, acted as captain. When Fort Washington was surrendered, he was among the prisoners, and was at first subjected to ignominious and severe treatment, being deprived of most of his clothing, marched through New York, and confined in the prison-ship Myrtle, and came near being murdered by a Hessian soldier. Ere long however he was permitted to reside at Flatbush, Long Island, where he remained eighteen months, when he was exchanged in company with his brother, John. After prosecuting his medical studies for a year or more, he was appointed surgeon in the 11th Pennsylvania regiment, and was commissioned by Congress; and in 1781 he received from Congress a commission as surgeon of artillery, in which capacity he remained with the army till the close of the war. When hostilities had terminated, he began the practice of medicine at Hartsville, and remained there three years; but having married in 1786 Christiana, the daughter of Judge Henry Wyrkoop, of Bucks county, he removed to Nockamixon township, and thence to Fallsington, where he resided forty years, pursuing his profession with success. For a long period he was ruling elder in the Presbyterian church of Newtown, to which place he transferred his home in 1823 and there died in 1831. His wife survived him nearly ten years.

One of their children, Ann, married Rev. Alexander Boyd, pastor of the Presbyterian church in Newtown. Another, Charles Clinton Beatty, graduated at a medical college in Philadelphia in 1816 and practiced medicine five years in Penn's Manor, and subsequently in Abington, Montgomery county. Another daughter, Mary, married Rev. Robert Steel, D. D., pastor of the church at Abington. Another son, John Beatty, now resides in Doylestown, at the advanced age of nearly 94 years, born in 1800. He first married Miss Emily Moore, daughter of Dr. Samuel Moore, of Philadelphia, who had a farm at Bridge Point, now in possession of Aaron Fries. This beautiful property he owned ten years, from 1831 to 1841. Having lost his wife, he married, in 1833, Miss Mary A. Henry, of Evansburg, Pa., and their home was brightened by the presence of five children, and many grandchildren have



proved an honor and comfort in their declining years.

Sarah Beatty, daughter of Dr. Reading Beatty, married Rev. Henry R. Wilson, D. D., who immediately after their marriage went to Indian Territory, as a missionary among the Choctaws. Exposed to many hardships and privations in an unhealthy district her health soon failed and in less than a year she was taken from her husband by death, July 15, 1835. He was afterwards sent to Hindostan as a missionary, and at a later period became the secretary of the board of church erection of the Presbyterian General Assembly, which office he ably filled till his death, a few years since.

6. The eighth child of Rev. Charles Beatty was called by his father Erkuries, a name that he himself coined in gratitude for the gift. It was derived from two Greek words—*e*, from, and *Kurios*, the Lord, which after a few changes in spelling became Erkuries. The boy was preparing for Princeton College when the war with Great Britain commenced, and though only sixteen years of age he wished to join his older brothers in fighting for the liberties of his country, but for a time he was restrained by his guardian on account of his youth. However, he successfully engaged with others in a privateering adventure to capture a British sloop near Elizabethtown, and soon after enlisted in the ranks as a soldier, rising ultimately through several grades of promotion to the position of major. He was in many severe battles—with Lord Sterling on Long Island, in the retreat by night; at White Plains, and in command as a sergeant of a guard over some stores, where he narrowly escaped being captured or slain and every one of the detachment was killed or wounded but himself. He took part in the engagements of the Brandywine under Lafayette and at Germantown, in the latter of which he was wounded in the thigh. Fainting from the loss of blood he was carried from the field and laid at the door of one of the Society of Friends, who took him in and sent for a gentleman to whom he was well known, a Mr. Erwin, who lived near Hatboro. There he remained till he had recovered and then returned to the army, which had encamped at Valley Forge. In 1778 he was in the battle of Monmouth under General Wayne; on the Hudson; at Schoharie to protect the town from the Indians; in an enterprise against the Onandagas, in April, 1779; and in Sullivan's expedition against the savages; in the fall of the same year. After Arnold's treachery he was stationed for a time at West Point and in various other places where he saw hard service in the field. He assisted in the capture of Yorktown, Va., saw the British lay down their arms, and was detached as a part of the guard over the prisoners at Lancaster, Pa. Throughout the war he was an active, brave and meritorious officer. Subsequently for several years he acted as clerk in the War Office, settling the accounts of the Pennsylvania line and as paymaster in the Western Army, which made it necessary for him to often visit New York and Philadelphia to confer with the Secretary of War about clothing, paying and provisioning the troops.

In 1793 ill health and other reasons induced him to resign his relation to the army, when General Wayne, in a letter

accepting his resignation, expressed his high appreciation of his faithful and valuable services and his great esteem for him as an officer and a gentleman. Most of his subsequent life was spent on the Castle Howard farm near Princeton, N. J., which he purchased and on which he devoted himself to practical and scientific agriculture. In 1799 he was married to Mrs. Susanna Ferguson, of Philadelphia, who with her daughter immediately went to reside on the farm with him. In civil life he was often elected to honorable and important offices. He was justice of the peace, judge of the county courts, member of the State Legislature and of the council, and for a long period treasurer of the Society of the Cincinnati. His later years were passed in Princeton, where he died in 1823, in the 64th year of his age.

He had three children, one of whom was Rev. Charles Clinton Beatty, D. D. He graduated at Princeton College, and after traveling in the West for the benefit of his feeble health, studied theology and preached in the vacant pulpit of the Presbyterian church in Doylestown two months in the summer of 1822, when through his labors and the aid of others a season of great religious interest was enjoyed and about seventy persons united with the church, trebling its numbers. Receiving a call from the Presbyterian church in Steubenville, Ohio, he decided to accept it and was installed pastor in 1823, which position he occupied thirteen and a half years. In those days in that new country ministers were content with small stipends. His salary at first was \$500 and he never asked the people to increase it. In 1824 he attended as a

delegate the General Assembly in Philadelphia, and was married in June to Miss Lydia R. Moore, a daughter of Dr. Moore, of Bridge Point, Bucks county, Pa., to whom he had been attached from his youth. His young wife, however, was not spared to him long. She passed from earth in June, 1825, and her infant daughter soon followed her. In 1827 he was married to Miss Hetty E. Davis, of Maysville, Ky. She was fond of teaching, and in accordance with her wishes they established the Steubenville Female Seminary, which for many years was widely known as a popular institution of high standing and eminent usefulness. In 1840 he received the degree of D. D., and in 1860 that of LL. D., from Washington College, Pa. Often a member of the Presbyterian General Assembly, he was elected the moderator of that body in 1862 and the next year preached the sermon at the opening of its sessions. He was called by his brethren to take a prominent part in the reunion of the two severed branches of the Presbyterian Church, being chairman of the committee of the old school assembly, and of the united committee composed of the two committees, whose report was adopted by both bodies, and sealed their union. In many other ways he was honored by ecclesiastical organizations, with which he was connected, which time forbids me to mention. After a life of singular benevolence, usefulness and distinction, he died at his home at Steubenville, O., October 30, 1882, in the 83d year of his age.

7. William Pitte Beatty, the tenth child of Rev. Charles Beatty, was named after the eminent English statesman, whose opposition to the tyranny of Great Britain in her treatment of the colonies



rendered him dear to every patriotic American. In 1799 he was married to Eleanor Polk, of Neshaminy, named for her aunt, Mrs. Eleanor Polk, a lady, who died in 1850 in extreme age, and who remembered to have seen General Washington when his army was encamped at Neshaminy, and he rode on horseback at the head of his troops and took off his hat to the ladies that greeted him. William Pitte Beatty was a good penman and had a talent for arithmetical calculations and was employed in various official positions in Philadelphia and Columbia, Lancaster county, in which latter place he was postmaster many years. His long life found its close in Philadelphia at the home of one of his sons, when he was 82 years of age. Like his brother Erkuries he maintained to the last the practice of wearing the hair in a quieu and in other respects resembled an old-fashioned gentleman. He was one of the founders and principal supporters of the Presbyterian church in Columbia, and was an ardent patriot and friend of every thing that benefited humanity.

One of his children, George Beatty, in 1832, had charge of a large section of the Chesapeake and Ohio canal; in 1837 he was Secretary of the Executive Council of the territory of Iowa; and on the division, he held the same position in Wisconsin; he was likewise the Auditor General and Treasurer of that Territory; and had charge of the building of the Northern railway of Canada, in which capacity he secured the approved and commendation of the directors, which was expressed by special resolution.

Another son of William P. Beatty, Erkuries, resided at Carlisle, Pa., and was Assistant Adjutant General in the late civil war under General Miles, and received from the War Department the rank by brevet of Lieutenant-Colonel for gallant and meritorious services.

I have already, I fear, exhausted your patience and will close with the remark, that the record of Rev. C. Beatty, and his family, is in a high degree honorable. Patriotism, courage love of military service, industry, executive ability, and piety are qualities which have been exemplified in an unusual measure in the ancestors and in their descendants.

From, *Standard*  
*Doylestown Pa.*

Date, *Feb. 28<sup>th</sup> 1894.*

#### To Mark Revolutionary Spots.

Among the bills introduced in the Senate last week was one by Mr. Sherman, which, if it passes, will revive, in some quarters at least, a discussion of Revolutionary history. The bill provides for the appointment by the President of a Commissioner to locate and determine the site from existing maps or records, or, in the absence of such maps, from the best and most available evidence that can be obtained, of all battlefields, earthworks, redoubts, forts, fortifications, or structures built, used,

occupied, or captured by the American forces during the War of the Revolution. The bill also provides for the marking of all such places with suitable tablets or other commemorative indication showing the location and its uses and purposes, and by what forces, during the Revolution. There are a number of historic spots in Bucks county that would be marked under the provisions of the bill.

From, *Republican*  
*Doylestown Pa.*  
Date, *Mar. 2<sup>d</sup> 1894.*

## A NOTED OLD CHURCH.

FOUNDED MANY YEARS AGO  
AND ALWAYS PROSPEROUS.

ACTIVE WORKERS AND SOCIETIES.

The Doylestown Presbyterian Church and  
Its Career Extending Over Many Years—  
The Work in Which Its Pastor and Members are Actively Engaged.

During the past few years there has been a marked development of interest in church work in Doylestown and vicinity. Some attribute it to meetings inter-denominational in character, and others to the organization of societies like the Christian Endeavor, which have induced young people to take a more active part in church services. There is no doubt, however, but that the pastors have been chiefly instrumental in bringing about this desirable state of affairs.

Doylestown is extremely fortunate in having efficient and earnest ministers in her churches. This is also true of places in the vicinity of the town. Interests common to all the churches have created fraternal feelings in one toward another. Therefore the work of each is a matter of general interest. THE REPUBLICAN publishes to-day the first of a series of articles, which will appear from time to time, relating to the churches of Doylestown and their work.

The Doylestown Presbyterian is one of the early churches in the county, the parent church being founded at Deep Run about 1725, and the present church established about 1804. Its congregation will always revere the name of Dr. S. M. Andrews, the pastor who filled the pulpit nearly a half century. The church was brought to its present strength under his ministry, and the present structure, with a seating capacity of 800, was built during his pastorate at a cost of over \$30,000.





REV. W. HAYES MOORE.

The prosperity of the church was continued under Rev. W. A. Patton, but was never greater than it is to-day. During Mr. Patton's ministry the manse was built, and it is now entirely free from debt, the last payment having been made last April.

The present pastor of the church is Rev. W. Hayes Moore. Under his administration it continues to prosper and flourish. He has cherished with special care the societies or organizations of interest to the young people of the church. There has probably never been a time in its history when they have taken such an active and general interest in church work.

Rev. W. Hayes Moore is a native of Cecil county, Maryland, leaving there about twelve years ago. He attended the West Nottingham Academy at Calora, the school founded in 1741, where Benjamin Rush received his early education. Mr. Moore taught school three years after leaving the academy, and then went to Westminster College, in Lawrence county, Pa., graduating in 1886, and then to Princeton, where he graduated at the Theological Seminary in 1889. In the Spring of that year he accepted a call to the New London Presbyterian Church, in Chester county. He was ordained and installed at New London, June 5, 1889, and remained there a year and four months, when he was called to Doylestown, September 2, 1890, and installed October 16.

The Christian Endeavor Society of the church had been organized but a short time before Mr. Moore came to Doylestown. He at once took a great interest in its development. It has grown to a membership of 125, and a junior order of the Endeavor has recently been organized with 31 members, from 8 to 15 years of age. Mrs. John L. Shroy is President of the Senior Endeavor and Herbert Ervin presides over the Junior order, with Miss Agnes Brunner as Superintendent. The Sunday schools and Ladies' Foreign and Home Missionary Societies are the other organizations within the church.

In speaking of the work of the Christian Endeavor Mr. Moore stated that he regarded it as one of the most flourishing and helpful organization in the church. It had greatly promoted church sociability, and had deepened the spirituality of the young people,

teaching them fidelity to Christian duty. It had also shown them that religion, instead of depriving them of a single good thing, they might with propriety enjoy, is really a blessing. The work of the society prepares them to take a position in the next few years in the church that otherwise they would never have been able to take.

The President of the Bucks County C. E. Union, Mr. C. D. Hotchkiss, and Mr. William Mason, the C. E. District Secretary, are both active members of the Doylestown C. E. Society. It can be safely said that Christian Endeavor work in the Presbyterian Church has disproved one thing to which many have clung tenaciously, and that is woman's unfitness for active, public church work, especially speaking and offering prayers in church meetings and presiding as leader. Efficient young women, capable of all the work their brothers do and doing it with equal ability are in the majority in the Doylestown Society.

There is also connected with the church a very efficient choir, of which Webster Grim is leader and Martin Hulshizer organist.

There are six Sabbath schools under the supervision of the church, in addition to the main school. All the schools together have an attendance of 850 children. The outside schools are Bridge Point, Friendship, Pebble Hill, Churches, Deep Run and Mechanicsville, the last named being a union school, though under the spiritual supervision of the Doylestown church. The home school numbers more than 300 scholars, the primary department alone numbering 100 children. The active teachers number about 36, each taking charge of from 5 to 10 scholars. The school has an excellent library to which 100 volumes have recently been added. John L. DuBois, Esq., is superintendent of the Sunday Schools, Mrs. Henry Chapman being superintendent of the primary department.

In prosecuting his work the pastor is ably assisted by the elders, upon whom he must constantly rely for support and encouragement. Those who are now rendering efficient service are John L. DuBois, Esq., Geo. W. Hunt, J. L. Erwin, Carlisle Shepherd, Jacob Hagerty, Philip Fretz, John G. Harris and Henry W. Gross. John Beatty and Benjamin Rich, who have been elders many years are not now in active service.

The Doylestown Presbyterian Church has been very active in benevolent work. More than \$1500 was sent away from Doylestown in one year, while the total sum expended for all church purposes amounted to more than \$6000.

Since Mr. Moore became pastor 148 people have been received into the membership of the church, 106 by profession of their faith and the others by transfer from other churches, 34 being received at last Communion, in February. The total membership at present is 553.

The pastor of the Presbyterian church is a firm believer in inter-denominational fellowship and co-operation with other churches in all kinds of moral and religious work. In speaking upon this subject he said; "I think the time is past when denominations should stand aloof from each other. One hopeful sign of the times is that such organizations as the Christian Endeavor Society are becoming so popular, for they emphasize the things that are common to all denominations and make little of the differences."

"It is always an extreme pleasure to me to have pastors of other churches in my pulpit, either in union services or by way of exchange. It is one of the pleasantest features of a Doylestown pastorate that all



the resident ministers, as well as those of the surrounding community, regard each other as fellow-laborers in the same great cause, and never look with jealous eyes upon each others work."

From, *Intelligencer*

*Doylestown Pa.*

Date, *Mar. 10<sup>th</sup> 1894.*

#### A Short History of the Barndt Family.

The Barndt family came from Tylersport to Chalfont in 1815 when John Barndt bought the lower tavern property and 46 acres of land. He came from Tylersport and kept the Eagle hotel for a life time. At the time of his death he had reached 87 years of age. His son, David Barndt, 82 years of age, and now the second oldest resident of Chalfont, was formerly a local merchant there. From this family the village took the name of Barndtsville which assumed this name until 1845, when Williams Stevens, who kept the rival store, obtained the post office and changed the name to Whitehallville. About 1870 the railroad company started to call the station Chalfont and always afterwards the little village has been called by that name. The first bridge across the Neshaminy creek was built at this place in 1792 and was succeeded by the present covered bridge rebuilt in 1840. During the Revolutionary War Washington and his army forded this stream above the site of this bridge on June 20th, 1777, and encamped at Doylestown the following day.

From, *Intelligencer*

*Doylestown Pa.*

Date, *Mar. 9<sup>th</sup> 1894.*

#### HISTORIC BUCKINGHAM MEETING.

"Vale" Visits the Ancient Edifice And Calls to Mind One of the Most Eloquent Preachers That the Society of Friends Has Ever Known.

On First-day morning last the writer was led to make his annual spring pilgrimage and mingle with those who are wont to gather weekly and hold spiritual converse with the author of all good. Arriving at an early hour an opportunity was presented of viewing some of the old landmarks that have made this edifice memorable above all others. Erected long before the Revolution it has claims to great antiquity, and the huge stone "horse block," so-called, that yet remains, carries us back to the period

when the horse and saddle was the almost universal method of travel to and from meeting. Marks of stray bullets that have plowed their way through the window casements call to mind the time the house was occupied by the soldiery, and its use as a hospital during the war.

There is little change in the surroundings, save here and there an ancient oak has succumbed to the blast and other shade trees have been planted to take their places. I wish it could be said that the places of our fathers who worshipped here long years, and have been gathered into rest, had been taken by their descendants. Such is not the case however, to any extent. Sixty years ago the familiar faces of Thomas Carey, John Watson, John Wilson, Thomas Paxson, Joseph Watson, Israel Lancaster, Samuel Blackman the minister, Samuel Johnson, the Waltons—Abner, Hiram and Jonathan, Isalah Jones, Nathan Good, William H. Johnson, William Betts, with many others occupying the higher seats, looked over the congregated assembly.

In looking over those gathered on First-day last the only representatives of the long line of former worshippers were Watson, Betts, Good and Paxson. Pearson Good, who has charge of the house and grounds at present, has held that position about half a century. He seems to hold over under civil service rules perhaps. May be our law makers borrowed their "Civil Service" from Friends. Nathan Good, father of Pearson, held the same position for a like long term. Father and son must have been faithful to their trust, else they would not have been able to retain their hold upon the society. Not a dissimilar view is presented in the political world of father and son (Camerons) holding over in long terms, like the Goods, and something akin to civil service. Is it good in both cases? Edward Good, grandfather of the now Patriarchal Pearson, was a carpenter, and did the wood work of the present meeting house. The polished cedar finishing in doors is his handiwork, and a century or more has made little impression or dimmed its lustre to any extent.

The hour for assembling of the worshippers having arrived the conference came to a close and in the language of Whittier, "The silence of the soul that waits for more than man to teach," gave an opportunity for all to hold sweet converse spiritually. The meeting was a silent one--no preaching to the outward, but from the well of deep memory's spring came up the remembrance of eminent ministers who in times past have attended this meeting and given timely counsel concerning things eternal. Most of those conspicuous in this line within the last forty or fifty years will be remembered by many, if not all our elderly people now living, and the limits of this paper will not admit of their recital here. Let us roll back the car of time some sixty years or more and call to mind the name of Jesse Kersey. He spent a winter with us, making his home with John Watson, father of the late Judge Watson, and attending the meeting usually every Sabbath. The meeting house was well filled in those days, many of other denominations attracted thither by the matchless eloquence of the preacher.

Although a mere youth I well remember his manner and appearance. He had long passed the meridian of life, with



Intellect undimmed, while his bowed form and whitened locks served to give additional interest to his eloquent discourse. Rising in his place he calmly surveyed the assembly, then his clear and mellow voice would be heard in every corner of the large house. He usually commenced his sermon with a text, so to speak, a practice not so generally followed by our ministers, as is the case with other denominations, which he would calmly and deliberately consider, reason upon it, and support by scriptural quotations, and by a clear logical deduction and cogent argument, discourse of precious gifts of God to the souls of men, of that faith which is the evidence of things not seen, the substance of things hoped for; that faith which proceeds from a living principle, the light and life of the spirit, and manifests itself in corresponding works. As himself and hearers became more deeply interested the sensibilities were awakened, the examples of the devoted servants of the Most High, in past ages, and of His precious visitation to all people, in all times, for the guidance and preservation, were dwelt upon, in persuasive and touching appeals to the feelings and in tones pathetic and impressive. He held that there was other guidance given man besides the written law—even the light within that Divine monitor that has been with man from the beginning and will continue until life's pilgrimage is ended. That it is not of man or his teachings but is born of God, and implanted in the breast of all, whereby they may discern good from evil. It was truly "the feast of reason and the flow of soul," in the higher sense, awakening to a recognition of our obligations of worship and obedience to a beneficent and merciful Creator, and love to Him and love to our fellow creatures.

This imperfect sketch will give but a faint idea of his matchless powers of oratory. With little education, but naturally gifted, he applied himself closely to the work he felt had been assigned to him, and it has been acknowledged by competent judges that, within or without the Society of Friends, in England or America, no more gifted and impressive power of sacred eloquence have been heard than those that proceeded from the lips of Jesse Kersey. Is it any wonder then that the old meeting house, during the winter of his presence among us, was filled to overflowing? This was in the later years of his ministry, when his manhood had lost somewhat of its former force and vigor. As early as 1813, I learn, he, in company with Philip Price, of Chester county, the head and we may say the founder of the celebrated Westtown boarding school, made a religious visit to the then new Yearly Meeting in Ohio, being the first session, as such, held there, Ohio at that time being "the far West." It was thought by many to be a risky spiritual adventure to establish a Yearly Meeting of Friends in bounds so closely allied to the wilderness. It proved a success, however, and doubtless Friend Kersey's presence and counsel had much to do in bringing about this happy result.

At that period no railroads traversed our continent, and wagon travel was some and difficult. The two Friends, on the journey on horseback, making stops where they found settlements of Friends, and held meetings by appointment. The new country offered

great inducement to the agriculturist with us, to anticipate Horace Greeley's advice and "go West." Many good people from our midst sold their possessions here and took up their long and toilsome journey in their white tented farm wagons with all their household effects therein. The exodus from Plumstead was most noticeable and it continued for many years thereafter. Many Friends joined in the general throng, and their passports of good fellowship and standing here were forwarded to Salem Monthly Meeting, Columbiana county. The glowing accounts received here from the early pioneers, of their success, and the rich lands purchased for a trifle led others to turn their faces westward, and as late as 1835 the tide flowed in that direction. By that time, however, Ohio lost all claims to wilderness, and was well settled up; travelers westward pushing on to Indiana and Illinois, notably to the latter State, Indiana not being held in as high esteem as her sister States on either side.

The reader will perceive ere this, no doubt, that in traveling spiritually with Friend Kersey to Ohio, I have wandered somewhat, and find myself discoursing for things temporal. I discovered the error myself, however, and when about to correct it, I found William Betts and Pearson Good were shaking hands, which was the signal for the assembly to rise.

VALE.

From, *Democrat*  
*Doylestown, Pa.*  
 Date, *Mar. 23<sup>d</sup> 1899*

#### KOHL FAMILY OF BUCKS COUNTY.

Some Interesting Facts About Its Ancestors and Present Members Here and Elsewhere.—A Pleasant Reunion at Jenkintown.

George M. Kohl, a long-time resident of Jenkintown, on Saturday gave an entertainment at his house on West Avenue to his relatives and intimate acquaintances in commemoration of his birthday. Among these were several from Philadelphia and Bucks county. After a sumptuous dinner and some conversation, Mr. Kohl called the assemblage to order in his parlor and requested William J. Buck, the well-known historian, to make some remarks, to which he cordially responded as follows:

On so interesting an occasion as the commemoration of our esteemed friend's seventy-fourth birthday, as well as in the presence of his descendants, relatives and acquaintances, I think I would be derelict to duty did I not comply with his kind request that I now make some remarks adapted to the circumstances that have brought us together. Having known him since the Spring of 1842, and only five



years his junior, I am thus pleased to be enabled among those present to bestow some tribute of my personal esteem. The anniversary of a long familiar friend's birthday, who has now attained to almost three-quarters of a century, is an important event and as such deserves also our regard.

The surname Kohl by its orthography denotes it to be conspicuously German. It was from the valley of the Rhine, and very probably Alsace, that the ancestors of this family emigrated. Among these was John George Kohl, who arrived in Philadelphia in the ship Mary, September 26, 1732, and a few years later was married to Mary Barbara Benben. We know from records that in the Spring of 1741 he resided in Falkner's Swamp, New Hanover Township, where his daughter, Albertina was born, May 6th of said year. Soon after this he removed into Nockamixon and settled on an original purchase of land on the Durham road, now in the lower portion of Bucksville, a distance of about thirty miles north of Jenkintown. Here his daughter Abigail was born, July 4, 1742, and in his house was married to Nicholas Buck April 21, 1761, now almost 133 years ago. He died on his said farm July 13, 1779, aged 79 years. He had three sons, George, Jacob and Joseph, who were enrolled in Captain Jacob Shoope's company in August, 1775, and who gave in their allegiance to the new form of government August 27, 1778. He had other children, but their names have not been ascertained.

It is my opinion that said George of Revolutionary memory was the grandfather of our honored friend. He and his wife, Catharine, we know had sons Anthony and George, besides other children. However, we are assured that George M. Kohl's grandfather was of that given name and after whom he was called, was born near Bucksville, where he married, and about 1786 removed eight miles this way on a farm at Curley Hill, Plumstead township, where he resided until his death. Here his sons George, Nicholas and John and a daughter Elizabeth were born, the latter subsequently married to Charles Carman. Nicholas was born in 1790, and while a young man removed to Willow Grove, where he purchased a small farm, and in connection therewith followed shoemaking and later the manufacture of the high eight-day clocks, one of which may be now seen here owned by his son. About 1818 he married Martha, the daughter of Israel Michener, also of Plumstead, who was of Welsh descent and for some time proprietor of the noted Red Lion Inn and postmaster of said village. They had children, George M., Elizabeth, subsequently married to Charles P. Walton, Mahlon and Charles. Nicholas Kohl was nearly a life long resident at the Willow Grove, where he died in 1866, aged 66 years; his wife survived him until 1873, having attained to the same age. They repose beside each other in the graveyard attached to Horsam Meeting House. He was a highly respected neighbor and an ingenious mechanic, traits that have been perpetuated in his descendants.

George Michener Kohl as may be judged by this anniversary was born March 17, 1820, and was married October 10, 1844, to Mary H., daughter of John Gourley, who have two surviving children; Milton S. married to Mattie, daughter of Benjamin Rich, is a farmer in Kansas, whose

daughter Anna P. is present, now a pupil of Abington Friends' School, and has beside six other children. Alfred is married to Elizabeth Walton, for some time in Jenkintown, and has sons Charles C. and George M. Mr. Kohl was the pioneer in introducing the hydraulic ram in Bucks county in 1847, and the first plumber in this borough.

In conclusion will yet state that I personally congratulate him for the many years he has attained and as one of the companions of his youth of over half a century ago, am grateful that I have also been permitted to survive to this occasion. His brothers Mahlon and Charles, now for some time deceased, were pupils of mine while principal of the Willow Grove school in 1847-8-9. The Kohl family is still numerous around Bucksville, Philadelphia, Bethlehem, Doylestown and elsewhere. They have at various times intermarried with the Buck family, hence have also one reason why I am here and if any undue partiality has been exhibited in these remarks let it be some apology for one, a resident now for forty years in Jenkintown, some cause for his being so well and widely known throughout this section.

From, *Enterprise*  
*Newtown Pa.*

Date, *Mar. 24/1894.*

#### HIDDEN INDIAN VILLAGES.

Ernest Volk, a searcher for the prehistoric man, who is in the employ of the Cambridge University, is preparing an interesting paper on the hidden villages of the Delaware Valley. Within the past few years he has unearthed villages on the banks of the Delaware river. His remarkable finds, some forty hoxes altogether, were at the World's Fair and are now in the cases of the Cambridge University museum. This scientist is now devoting his time to telling about his remarkable discoveries just below Trenton, a few yards beyond the grave of Gen. George B. McClellan. Here he found from three to five feet under the surface of the meadows a thriving Indian village, well governed and having the evidences of being one of the most important in the Delaware Valley.

Some 500 years ago the Delaware river, below Trenton, took an easterly course and made a branch stream through the meadows, which was called by the Leni Lenape Indians Achpoachguissing, afterwards called by the early Swedes and settlers, the Potcatguissing Creek. These Indian names have not been preserved, for the nearest railroad station is called Rusling, after the well-known General James F. Rusling, of Trenton. The surface gives no indication that below the green grass and the tide there was hidden from view a primitive municipality. Just how the scientist found it he will not say, but he located it after some study and superintended the details



of taking off the forty and fifty inches of top soil himself, so that he could have the whole arrangement of graves and pits before him, and could acquire a knowledge of the habits and occupations of the citizens of the town that was an industrial centre before Columbus was setting eggs on their ends.

A systematic exploration reveals the fact that an accumulation of twenty-four to twenty-five inches of soil had taken place since the last dwellers left the village site. The first traces of occupation are now five feet below the present surface. To name the time that has elapsed since the last residents have left here would be speculation. The shore of the stream was covered by a luxuriant growth of forest trees, their foliage would help a great deal the grass land to swell the accumulation, together with the sediment of muddy water standing over the place at high freshets, so when these matters are taken into consideration in comparison with other accumulations he estimates that from 350 to 400 years may have elapsed since the departure of the last residents of this place.

#### THE VILLAGE SITE.

The whole length of this village site is nearly 500 feet, and the width varies between eighty to 100 feet. After removing the two feet of accumulation, which is composed of leaf mold and sand, and does not contain anything in the line of relics, it is found that these people living here have dug into the earth 170 pits, varying in size from eighteen inches to two feet and more in diameter and the same in depth, numerous hearths, fire pits, ash beds and graves.

All these are found in the three feet of accumulated soil three feet thick and lying under the two feet of top accumulation. In these pits are stone implements, such as rude knives, spear and arrow points, perforators, scrapers, celts and such like; whole and broken chips and flakes of the various stones the implements are made out of. Fragments of earthen pots, beautifully decorated by incised lines, fancifully arranged. All these are, however, straight, and no curved lines are met with. Numerous small sheets of mica, charcoal, animal bone, implements made of bone and numerous rudely broken river pebbles. The hearths are composed of round stone, varying in size from two to four inches thick, and are arranged in layers of two to four on top of each other. Much charcoal is found among these hearths, together with ashes and occasionally a fragment of potsherd or a broken stone implement. The fire pits are small and never over twelve inches deep. These do not contain anything but charcoal, and are the nearest to the surface. These ash beds are shallow pits, five to six feet long and broad, but never running as deep as the pits. They contain much animal bone, partly burned, fragments of earthen pots and small flakes of stone and a large amount of ashes and charcoal.

The graves are very interesting. They are situated in an irregular line, running parallel with the creek, and are from two to three feet deep. The skeletons they con-

tain are chiefly in a bad state of preservation, and only with the utmost care the explorers succeeded in saving a few of the best of the crania. The body is generally found laying upon the side, knees drawn up toward the body. No particular care is taken which way the head is pointed. Several graves contain two skeletons, one placed on top of the other and again alongside of each other. The bodies seem to have been of medium size, averaging in life from 5 feet 2 inches to 5 feet 10 inches.

In looking over the numerous material collected from this village site, and taking into consideration the conditions in which they found this material, many interesting features are discovered that will bear upon the clearing up of several dark points heretofore unexplained.

#### FIRST TRACES OF OCCUPATION.

The first traces of occupation are found fully five feet below the present surface; rude fragments of argillite rock artificially detached, loosely distributed over the yellow, undisturbed sandy loam, then the surface. No other stone except the broken quartzite pebbles that served as hammer stones accompany these, but as we get eighteen to twenty inches nearer the top or surface, about half-way of the layer accumulated during the stay of these people, we find that another material is introduced out of which implements are made. This is the yellow, green and red jasper, black chert and white quartz. This is plainly showing that argillite was the first material used by the first comers here for a long time and then used alone. The pits were dug from various levels and depths, and those that were dug from the lower half of the three feet accumulation show exclusively only rude pottery and chiefly large vessels with none or scarcely any decoration, very rude, if any at all. The majority of the pits of the upper half of the three feet show a decidedly different life, a finer, smaller implement of jasper, chert and quartz, a thin, finely decorated pot of a small size, and the animal bones we find here are of smaller animals.

The bones found in the lower pits are of larger animals, such as deer, probably elk and bear, and bone of a large fish, apparently the hide bone of the sturgeon. The smaller animals that furnished the bones in the upper pits are the beaver, mink, turtle and fowl. The scientist recognized some of the wild goose here, and the pectoral fin of the black catfish. The largest bones here are those of the Virginia deer.

Among these pits we find two on the very brink of the bank, barely eight inches below the present surface, that are entirely different in their contents and resemble those of another village site on the terrace of a more recent date.

#### LIFE OF THE TRIBE.

It is evident that a long, continuous occupation of this locality took place; how long a time it is difficult to estimate. That a great development took place during the stay is shown by the specimens unearthed in the three feet of accumulation. Also a change of the fauna, which could only have taken place gradually. The total absence of



any conflict and the enormous quantity of potsherd testify to a long stay. Their occupation has seemingly been the hunt and fishing, and the raising of maize. They have been agriculturists to a certain extent, as the explorers found numerous large flat stones, varying in diameter from one to three feet, and from two to six inches thick, which show signs of having been used. Water-worn pebbles, resembling the pebbles generally found in Indian village sites, but showing no artificial shaping or polishing, have evidently been used as crushers. The rude features of all these things in comparison with Indian village finds, speaks for greater antiquity, and the fact that no polished or ground stone implements are found in the lower layer or pits, strengthens the claim for greater age.

This village site is so far the oldest in the Delaware Valley, and the specimens obtained from here are of special interest and value, for they are a complete evidence, none being carried away by collectors. The rude fragments of argillite rock artificially detached, and the rude implements of the same laying five feet below the present surface of this village site, are striking evi-

dence and apparently a connecting link to the ancient workshops of argillite on the Delaware river.

#### WHO THE EXPLORER IS:

The man who made these explorations is a German, about forty-eight years old. He began the exploration of the Delaware Valley as far back as 1880, for Dr. Charles C. Abbott, of the University of Pennsylvania, and in 1889 was retained by the Cambridge University, and has been principally at work in New Jersey marl beds, the Delaware Valley and among the Mound Builders of Ohio. At his home in Trenton he has an interesting museum, among his curiosities the skeletons of several Indian chiefs.

From, *Intelligencer*

*Doylestown, Pa.*

Date, *Mar. 30<sup>th</sup> 1894,*

#### DAYS OF THE REVOLUTION.

Officers and Men Enlisted in Bucks County  
in the Cause of Independence—Royal  
Sympathizers Made to Recant.

In 1777 there were five battalions of Bucks county militia enrolled. Only a portion of the privates, however, saw actual service in the field. It was quite as difficult to get soldiers then as it was during our Civil War and the authorities were not so well prepared to compel service. Many men refused to march when

called upon, and even when within the military lines. Some military companies boldly deserted in a body, as was the case after the battle of Princeton. In fact there was nothing but patriotism to entice the soldier to enter or remain in the service. The food and clothing were wretched, and as to pay, very little was ever received. Except to the hopeful the result looked very dubious and uncertain, and British success would endanger the lives or property of all who took part in the rebellion against the Crown.

The colonels of the five Bucks county battalions were Hugh Tomb, Arthur Erwin, John Keller, William Roberts and Joseph McIlvain. The lieutenant-colonels were James McMasters, Robert Robinson, Joseph Severts, John Lacey and John Jarvis. Of these John Lacey, of Buckingham, afterwards became a general. The majors were John Folwell, William Hart, Thomas Long, John Coryell and one whose name is not recalled. There were 40 captains, 119 subalterns, 160 sergeants, 40 drummers and 40 fifers. The privates were 2791, or about one in ten of the whole population. During the summer of 1777 three of these battalions were stationed at Billingsport, N. J., but that of Colonel Tomb's was at Bristol, where five hundred men were encamped for instruction and military drill.

The Non-Associators mainly comprised those beyond the military age or else those who refused to bear arms owing to religious scruples. Very few of the Non-Associators would have helped the British, but were those who were unable or unwilling to fight at all. The American military authorities, however, were not disposed to take any risks. So we find that all those not enrolled in the military service were deprived of their fire arms, if they could be found. Committees were appointed in every township to seize and confiscate all the weapons of the non-contestants.

Not a few sympathizers with the Royal cause offered no aid and assistance to the enemy except with their tongues. They were not allowed to do that. Whatever a person thought of the policy of Independence, he must refrain from any public declaration of his sympathies and belief. For the expression of such opinions they were soon called to account. In consequence many "sawed wood and said nothing," and were much surprised when they learned the news that the American Colonies were really to become free and independent. As a sample of this suppression of free speech in war time we find record of the recantation of a man, then living within two miles of Doylestown. He belonged to one of the best families of Bucks county, which has had many worthy descendants to this day. On this account we suppress his name. Upon pressure, he was compelled to retract his real sentiments, which he did in the following terms:

AUGUST 4, 1776.

WHEREAS, I have spoken injuriously of the distressed people of the town of Boston, and disrespectfully of the measures prosecuting for the redress of American grievances; I do hereby declare that I am heartily sorry for what I have done, voluntarily renouncing my former



promise for the future to render the conduct unexceptionally to my country, by strictly adhering to the measures of Congress."

Though a farmer he was evidently a man of unusual intelligence for that period. This retraction is couched in good style and some pretty long words are used, such as an illiterate man would not think of writing.

E. M.

From, *Intelligencer*  
*Doylestown, Pa.*  
Date, *Mar. 31<sup>st</sup> 1894*

#### Chalfont.

The old grist mill near Chalfont formerly owned by Francis J. Curley, Sr., but recently sold to Theodore Hermann, of Point Pleasant, was years ago known as the Fretz mill. It was built some time between 1770 and 1777, by a man named Nathan Mathews, who moved from Virginia to that place during the Revolution. It finally became the possession of the Fretz family about 1790, John Fretz purchasing it from John Thomas. They held ownership for over three generations.

From, *Republican*  
*Doylestown, Pa.*  
Date, *April 2<sup>nd</sup> 1894*

## ANOTHER OLD CHURCH

### THE NEW BRITAIN BAPTIST CHURCH.

#### ITS FOUNDING AND ITS WORK.

The Origin of the Church Dates Back in the Previous Century—A Long List of Pastors—The Present Pastor—His Able Assistants in the Work of the Church.

In the southeast angle formed by the Upper State road and the thoroughfare leading to Iron Hill, in the picturesque little village of New Britain, stands an old Baptist church. It is built upon a small knoll sloping gently to the south, at the foot of which is a large spring in whose clear, cold waters, hundreds have been baptized. At the back of the church, and enjoying the same sunny exposure, is the old grave yard whose sod was broken, says one of the lichen-covered stones, as early as 1748, in which year John Riale was buried there.

Tall trees cast a pleasant shade about the grounds when in foliage. These trees greatly enhanced the beauty of the place. Two of them spread sheltering arms over the old church until a short time ago, when their graceful branches were lopped away, lest they might damage the roof of the building.

#### A CHURCH WITH A HISTORY.

The old church has an interesting history. Some of the men who lie beneath the low mounds in the ancient burial ground could relate stirring events connected with the



REV. THOMAS CHALKLEY DAVIS.

founding of this church, were they alive to-day, events which happened more than a century and a quarter ago.

The first Baptist meeting house in New Britain was built in 1744. It was known for many years by the name of the Society Meeting House, and the congregation was called the Society Party. The name is said to have originated from a company of capitalists called the Society of Free Traders, formed among the moneyed men of London in 1682. They bought a tract of land containing 8300 acres, extending from the Borough of Doylestown as far west as the line between Bucks and Montgomery counties. The Meeting House occupied a central position in the tract of land.

#### HOW IT CAME TO BE FOUNDED.

The New Britain Baptist Church was the offspring of the old Montgomery Church. The suggestion that it be founded aroused the indignation of the parent Church.

The immediate cause of the separation was doctrinal division. But as early as 1730 the Baptists in New Britain had become numerous. They then held services at private houses, but attended church at Montgomery. The project to form a new church was hotly opposed. The New Britain faction finally obtained an honorable dismission.

The corporation was composed of 22 members, Isaac Evans, David Stephens, Evan Stephens, John Williams, Walter Shewall, Joshua Jones, William George, Clement Doyle, William Dungan, John James, David Morgan, Thomas James, David Stephens, Jr., Thomas Humphreys, Mary James, Mary Shewall, Mary James, Margaret Philips, Elizabeth Stephens, Jane James, Catharine Evans and Margaret Doyle. The Church derived its name from the township wherein it was organized.



#### THE ORIGINAL BUILDING.

The timbers and masonry of the old meeting house are venerable, but strong and well preserved. The seating capacity is about 600. In 1882 it was re-roofed and painted inside and out and somewhat remodeled and refurnished. The interior is attractive. Galleries are built at either side and at one end. The pulpit platform has been enlarged and is handsomely equipped, a space being allotted for the choir.

#### THE CHAPEL ERECTED QUITE RECENTLY.

In 1885 a beautiful chapel was erected in the immediate vicinity of the church. Here special meetings and various entertainments are held, it being furnished with a piano and organ. On the main floor is an audience room, parlor and library. The library at present contains about 250 volumes. Above the parlor and library is the infant class-room, with dining rooms and facilities for cooking in the basement. The chapel is handsomely finished in natural wood, is carpeted and has a seating capacity of 300. It was erected and furnished at a cost of about \$7000.

#### THE PASTORS OF THE CHURCH.

The gentleman who presides over this church, which has a membership of 400, is Rev. Thomas Chalkley Davis. He and Rev. N. C. Fetter, of Spokane, who has been called to the Doylestown church, are the only survivors of all the pastors of who have had charge at New Britain.

The following are the names of the preachers in the order in which their pastorates occurred from 1743 to 1879: Joseph Eaton, William Davis, Joshua Jones, William White, Silas Hough, John C. Murphy, James McLaughlin, Samuel Aaron, Thomas T. Cutcheon, Samuel Nightingale, Heman Lincoln, William Wiider, Levi G. Beck, Abijah C. Wheat, William Whitehead and Lewis Munger. Then came Mr. Fetter, who was succeeded by Mr. Davis, the present pastor.

#### SOMETHING ABOUT THE PRESENT PASTOR.

Rev. T. C. Davis resides in the pleasant parsonage at New Britain, which stands on an elevation overlooking a beautiful valley to the west. He loves dearly the people with whom his lot has been cast, and is constantly working for the best interests of his church. He was born in Philadelphia, and joined church at the age of seventeen. Even at that early age he had a desire to enter the ministry, but had no opportunity to study. By his own industry he finally secured a scholarship in the William Penn Charter School, of Philadelphia, a Quaker institution. He remained there two years. Then circumstances transpired to prevent further study and he went into business, becoming Superintendent for a life insurance company, which position he held ten years. But he never felt at home in this calling, and still cherished the desire to preach. He was married in the meantime, and finally entered Crozer Seminary, at Chester. He began in the middle of the term, passing his examination in one week, and completed the course in two and a half years, graduating in 1891.

Rev. Mr. Davis began his pastorate work at New Britain January 1, 1891, having been called the preceding month, and before he graduated in the following June. He was ordained in the New Britain Church on June 16.

The pastor of the New Britain Church is entirely happy in his surroundings. He is fond of nature, and something of a botanist. His favorite work, however, is Bible study. Upon his study desk is a Bible filled with

notes and underlinings involving years of thoughtful research. He enjoyed work of this character while engaged in business, having had charge of one of the branches of the Philadelphia Medical Mission, an un-denominational institution supported by voluntary contributions. He preached there one night during the week and upon the Sabbath for a year. Before coming to New Britain he also had charge of a little chapel at White Hill, N. J.

#### WHAT HE HAS ACCOMPLISHED.

An idea of Mr. Davis' influence and work can best be obtained from a synopsis of what he has accomplished since taking charge at New Britain. The members received number 48; amount of money raised, \$8,019.96. Money raised for benevolent purposes, \$1,115.87; for improvements, \$600. He also founded the interesting little paper called *Our Church Home*, which has completed its second year, being published by the young people each month.

#### THE SOCIETIES AND THEIR WORK.

Several church societies doing excellent work have been organized during Mr. Davis' pastorate. Among them the Society of Andrews, which looks after the outposts, conducting meetings not held at the church. This society, composed of men, holds a monthly service at the Almshouse. The pastor is its president.

The Society of Marthas looks after the poor, its influence being felt in the home life of the people.

The Memorial Mission Band was founded in memory of Miss Ida Mathias, whose pious and womanly attributes endeared her to all the community.

The Young People's Union is another important organization. The Union has prayer service each Sunday evening, and holds a very interesting literary meeting each month. An idea of the wide field covered by the work of the Union may be gained from the names of the committees: Devotional, Temperance, Music, Instruction, Decoration, Missions, Membership, Social, Publications and Collections.

The Visitation Society, composed of ten ladies, called Deacons' assistants, make it their duty to visit the sick and needy.

The Sunday schools of the church containing about 200 pupils, are looked after by Benjamin Schuyler, Superintendent of the main school, and C. Jacob Conard, superintendent of the Mission school. Thus, it will be seen, that the pastor has ample work to do in keeping a general supervision of all these various organization, notwithstanding the fact that he is most ably assisted by their officers.

The church at New Britain is aglow with life and enthusiasm, and accomplishing a lasting good.

Mr. Davis on Sunday completed the last of a series of interesting sermons. The subject of the first series, in 1891, was "Human Life;" second series, 1892, "Divine Life," the third series being eloquent and scholarly discourses upon "The Isms of the Age."

#### ABLE ASSISTANTS.

Among the members of the church, in addition to those already mentioned, who are ably assisting the pastor in this good work are: Deacons, Robert Johnston, Henry Haldeman, George Irwin, John Jacoby, Robert H. Johnston; Trustees, Martin Evans, Philip Grove, Thomas Good, Benjamin Schuyler, C. Jacob Conard; Clerk, Abiah R. James; Treasurer, Martin Evans; Secretary of Finance, Alfred Mathews; Church Historian, Henry F. Jacoby; Treasurer of Benevolence, William Keler; Secretary of Be-



nevolence, Miss Carrie Jacoby; Deacons' Assistants, Mrs. Susan Myers, Mrs. Thomas Good, Mrs. I. O. White, Mrs. Philip Grove, Mrs. A. R. James, Mrs. Charles Mortimer, Mrs. Henry F. Jacoby, Miss Elizabeth Hines, Mrs. James D. Scott and Miss Maria Miller.

Mrs. P. B. Grove, Miss Carrie M. Jacoby, Mrs. L. C. Riale are president, secretary and treasurer respectively of the missions. M. S. Cogan and Wynne James form the Executive Committee of the Society of St. Andrews. Mrs. T. C. Davis, Mrs. William Mathews and Mrs. Eugene James compose the Executive Committee of the Society of Marthas. Mrs. Thomas Good, Miss Maggie Riale, Mrs. William Keller and Miss Kate Fretz are president, vice president, treasurer and secretary respectively of the Ladies' Aid Society. Miss Lettie Mathews, Miss Sarah Kratz and Miss Carrie Mathews are president, treasurer and secretary respectively of the Memorial Mission Band. Henry F. Jacoby, Miss Carrie Jacoby, Miss Carrie Buckner, Miss Susie Hohlman and Miss Lettie Mathews are president, vice president, treasurer, secretary and corresponding secretary of the Young People's Union.

From, *Intelligencer*  
*Daylestown, Pa.*  
 Date, *April 6" 1894,*

#### SOMETHING ABOUT THE GRIFFITH FAMILY OF HILLTOWN.

The family name of Griffith is very common in Wales and also among people of Welsh descent elsewhere. We learn from *Burke's Peerage* that Owen Gwynedd ap Griffith was the oldest son of Griffith ap Cynan, King of North Wales. This Owen Griffith, Prince of North Wales, was a chivalrous defender of the independence of his country against the English; and died in 1219, after his distinguished reign of thirty-two years. His son, Owen Griffith, succeeded to the throne, but was deposed by his brother Llewellyn, who assumed the sole sovereignty of North Wales. He was attacked in overwhelming numbers by the forces of Edmund I and slain at the battle of Builth, in the valley of Wye, December 21, 1282. He had been married to the Lady Elinor, daughter of the Earl of Leicester by his princess Elinor, widow of William, Earl of Pembroke, and second daughter of King John of England.

There were a number of the name of Griffith who migrated to America and to Penn's Province. After the latter some settled in Philadelphia, others in Chester county, and one family held a large tract covering the upper portion of Gwynedd township in Montgomery. It is believed that the latter party were related to the Hilltown family. Rev. Benjamin Griffith, pastor of the Montgomery church from 1725 to 1768, lived in New Britain township, a mile east of Line Lexington, where he owned three hundred acres.

Evan Griffith, ancestor of the Hilltown

family, was the son of Howell Griffith, who lived in Pembrokeshire, Wales. He embarked for America in 1701, but the vessel of which he was a passenger was captured by the Spaniards and he was carried a prisoner to Mexico. He, with others, was ransomed by the British government after suffering hard treatment and sent to Charleston, South Carolina. From thence they set sail for Pennsylvania, and first settled in Montgomery township. He there buried his first wife and married Sarah Coffin of an English family, by whom he had four children, Nathaniel, Jacob, John and Sarah. His second wife died also, and his third was Mary James, possibly daughter of John James, of New Britain. By this last wife he had three children, Abraham, Isaac and Howell. There were also others from Elizabeth and Catharine. Meanwhile, he had removed to Hilltown, where in 1726 he bought 150 acres of Thomas Walmsly, and in 1738 he purchased 350 acres of John Plumly. Some of this was near Leidy town, but other tracts were in the vicinity of Snoveltown or Fairhill in the Western part of the township, and in which region Evan Griffith lived.

Evan Griffith had probably been born about 1690, or perhaps a little earlier. In the adventure of his youth he had seen strange lands and tropical climes, but spent the remainder of a long life among his countrymen in Hilltown. He died in the winter of 1758, full of years, and having much possessions which he devised to his children by his will of December 15th, 1757.

#### WILL OF EVAN GRIFFITH.

The main features of his will were: His widow, Mary, was to have the usual provisions for her support. Legacies of £20 each were left to his daughters Catharine, wife of Theophilus Williams, and Sarah, wife of Thomas Bate. Both of these lived in the west corner of Montgomery township, their land being just east of Lansdale. Williams held this from 1738 till his death, in October, 1765. His wife survived him and her family held the property till about the time of the Revolution. The will goes on to say: To my son, Nathaniel, the plantation in Hilltown whereon he now resides, comprising 101 acres, being northwest end of land I bought of Jeremiah Langhorne. To my son, Isaac, my messuage plantation, where I now live, of 103 acres. Three sons, Abraham, Jacob and Howell, had already been given shares of land or money. Mention is made of a deceased daughter, Elizabeth, wife of John Lewis.

Of these sons of Evan Griffith, the eldest, Nathaniel, lived near Fairhill, adjoining lands of Levi Thomas, Abraham Cope, Charles Leidy and others. He had two sons and two daughters—Daniel, Benjamin, Ann, wife of William Morris, and Sarah, wife of Robert Heaton. His death took place in 1790. Of his children, Daniel removed to Western New York; Benjamin took the homestead. He married Martha Lewis and afterwards removed to Honeybrook, Chester county, where his descendants long remained. Isaac, another son of Evan Griffith, married Phoebe Morris, and lived in Hilltown. He had Margaret, wife of John Harris; Thomas, Ann, wife of Joseph Lunn, and Howell, who married Alice Lunn. Abraham married Margaret Llewellyn. John married Sarah James and removed to Culpepper,



Virginia. Jacob, born in 1719, married Mary, daughter of John Mathias, of Hilltown. The wife of Nathaniel was Elizabeth Davis.

It remains to speak of Howell, the youngest son of Evan Griffith. He married Elizabeth, daughter of Daniel Pugh. He was a captain in the Revolutionary army and fought in Germantown, where the British bullets flew so thick that his clothing was pierced in eleven places. One ball was sped with a more deadly aim, and striking his head, inflicted a wound that affected his brain long afterward. When somewhat distraught from its effects, he was wont to wander about among his neighbors, telling the following story. He said that his father had fled from Wales when a boy. His head had become infected with lice. He asked his father for a comb but instead received a beating, whereat the indignant youth left his presence forever. At some time in his life Howell Griffith had crossed the ocean to visit the land of his father's nativity, and staid in Wales for nearly two years. Whilst there, he learned of a great estate that was to descend to the Griffith family. After his return when in these moods he would tell of this great fortune in store for the posterity of Evan Griffith. Long after Captain Griffith and his strange story had passed away, it was revived, and about 1870 and succeeding years there was a concerted effort made to ascertain the facts in the case by sending agents to Great Britain, to see if any such fortune might be obtained. These efforts have proved fruitless up to date.

Howell Griffith left descendants to whom he transmitted his sword and the uniform he had won as an American officer. We have trace of his daughter Margaret, who married Jacob Hendricks. The latter was of Hollander descent, whose ancestors settled in Towamencin. Jacob Hendricks kept a public house, bearing the sign of a fountain from 1803 to 1809, and hence the present name of Fountainville. He had thirteen children, of whom six lived to maturity. These were Aaron Hendricks, who lived east of Telford; Harriet, who married an Eckert; Frances, who lived near Point Pleasant; William, who removed to near Columbus, Ohio; Jacob, who went to Philadelphia, and Charles, who married, Margaret, daughter of Asa Thomas. He was a blacksmith living in the vicinity of New Britain, and was the father of the family of that name that long lived in that locality, and two of whom now live at New Galena.

From, *Intelligencer*  
*Doylestown Pa.*

Date, *April 24<sup>th</sup> 1894.*

### NEW BRITAIN GRAVEYARD.

A Chart of the Interments for Nearly 150 Years—The Old Family Names of Those Who There Laid Their Beloved Dead to Rest.

Harry F. Jacoby, church historian of the New Britain Baptist Church, assisted by Thomas Good and George W. Irwin, has made a complete chart of the historic old burying ground adjoining the church, with the dates of all the interments and names of all those whose mortal remains lie in the Mother Earth waiting the call of the trumpet. A study of the chart is interesting to one concerned in local history, and a stroll through the graveyard is even more so because of the unique epitaphs occasionally to be seen upon the old tombstones. There are 890 graves marked on the chart, the earliest interment noted being that of John Riale in 1748. There were at least thirty-one more interments in the old burying ground previous to 1800, of which the chart gives the following: 1765, Martha Dungan; 1767, Peter Eton; 1772, James Evans and John Howard; 1777, Joseph Mathews; 1778, Sarah Mathews; 1779, Walter Shewell; 1781, John Williams; 1782, John Mathews; 1782, Robert Magill; 1786, Mary Mason; 1788, Jeremiah Vastine; 1789, John Young, Jr.; 1791, Margaret Williams; 1793, Daniel Evans, Dr. John Evans, Jonathan Mason and Dinah Mathews; 1794, John Young; 1795, Benjamin Hough; 1797, Joseph Dungan, Esq., and John James; 1798, Martin, Margaret and Jenima Haas, George Dungan, Thomas Jones, William Griffiths and Abel James; 1799, William Dungan and Isaac Hill.

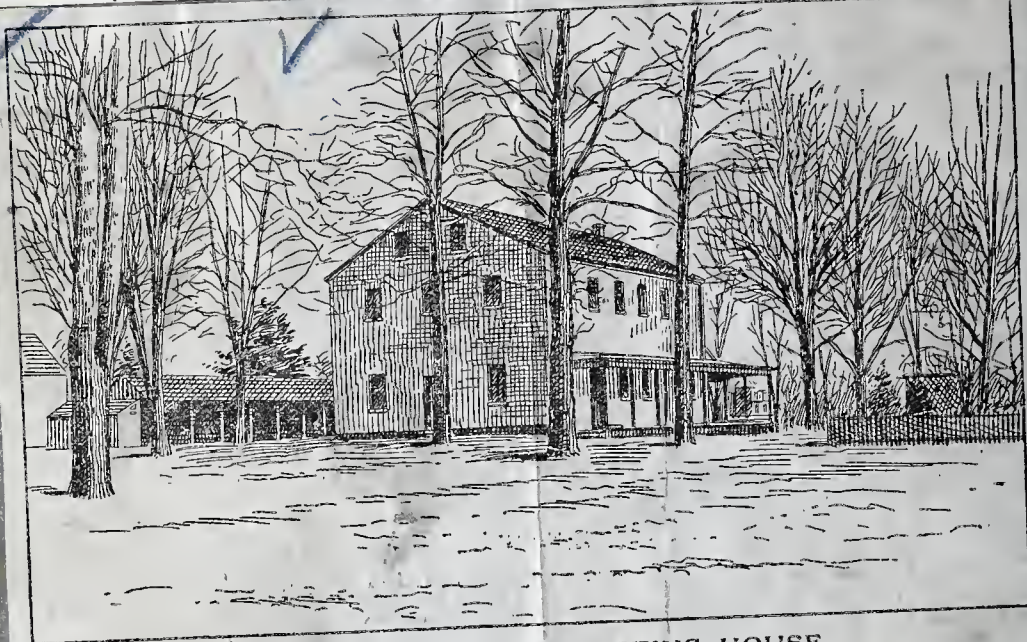
Many of the old family names still familiar are found among those of the deceased whose last resting place is in the New Britain churchyard, while others are no longer to be found in the families who still claim old Bucks as their home. Some old family names have completely died out while the representatives of others have sought homes and fortunes in other communities. The old family names on the chart comprise those of Aaron, Archambault, Allshouse, Acor, Arnell, Beck, Brinker, Bertles, Bryan, Brunner, Black, Buckman, Barbieri, Cadwallader, Cox, Cammell, Currill, Chire, Conard, Cozens, Cornell, Clinker, Craig, Child, Clymer, Clark, Delp, Doyle, Day, Donaldson, Dungan, Dunlap, Dennison, Evans, Erwin, Foulke, Funk, Fellman, Garges, Gray, Gibson, Goodrich, Griffith, Ganges, Gearhart, Good, Grove, Graham, Garner, Godshalk, Harvey, Haas, Hines, Holcomb, Hoffman, Hill, Haldeman, Hohlman, Hawkins, Hinkle, Hibbs, Hart, Hendrie, Harrol, Hough, Heller, Hydrie, Hayes, Hicks, Hoagland, Harding, Hibbs, Ivins, Irvin, Jacoby, James, Johnston, Jones, Kirk, Kerns, Kephart, Kinsey, Kratz, Krewson, Lightcap, Luun, Layman, Lovett, Large, Mathews, Meredith, Myers, Mitchell, Miller, Morris, Merrill, McKinstry, Megargee, Mastern, McEwen, Michener, McConnell, Magill, Murray, Melroy, Nightingale, Nasters, Oakland, Potts, Pool, Polk, Price, Parry, Riale, Rotzel, Rapp, Roberts, Rice, Radcliffe, Rich, Rodrock, Reigle, Richenbauch, Sickel, Shupe, Smith, Stillwell, Stewart, Stirk, Scott, Stone, Shewell, Stephens, Swartz, Strawn, Shutt, Schuyler, Shannon, Shade, Thoman, Torrance, Thomas, Van Toor, White, Wigton, Walter, Williamson, Wilson, Williams, Wentz, Young.



From, *Enterprise*

*Newtown, Pa.*

Date, *April 28 1844.*



NEWTOWN FRIENDS' MEETING HOUSE.

Endeavors have been made to find the original subscription papers that were used for the purpose of raising funds for the erection of Friends' Meeting House in Newtown (a picture of which appears above), but up to this time we have been unsuccessful, as they are apparently lost.

On a careful examination of the minutes of Wrightstown Monthly Meeting, it is found that the first proposal for establishing a Friends' meeting in Newtown, to be composed of some members belonging to Wrightstown, Middletown and Falls Monthly Meetings, was made to that meeting on Fourth of Eighth-month, 1813; that it was laid over for one month, and then a committee was appointed to take the subject into consideration, which committee reported unfavorably. But on the 8th of Third-month, 1815, application was again made, and on Fourth-month 15th, 1815, liberty was granted to hold an indulged meeting on First and Third days, at 11 o'clock, for six months, but nothing is said in the minutes about where the meeting was to be held, as there was no meeting house then built, or being built.

On referring to page 70 of "Memoirs of the Life and Religious Labors of Edward Hicks," we learn that this indulged meeting was held in the old Court House, which was rented for that purpose for six months. When report was made to the monthly meeting that the meeting was large, it was

agreed to be continued six months longer, and that, in the Twelfth-month, 1815, application was made to Wrightstown for liberty to build a meeting house, but that liberty was not granted. The indulged meeting was continued in the Court House, and application was made for a Preparative meeting, which was granted by the Quarterly Meeting.

Edward Hicks' Memoirs further informs us, on page 70, that "Our opposers, though few in number, tried to alarm the Quarterly Meeting by stating that the Quarterly Meeting would become responsible for any expense that Friends of Newtown might be pleased to go to if they granted them permission to build." Edward then said, "Friends of Newtown ask no pecuniary favour of Bucks Quarterly Meeting, or any other meeting. We are willing and entirely able to build the house ourselves; we only want the unity of the spirit in the bond of Peace." The memoir goes on to say that "I was present when seven rich Friends pledged themselves to build the house."

But it is thought these seven Friends got considerable assistance from others in raising funds for building purposes, as we have heard how some of the money was raised. The late ex-Judge Michael Hutchinson Jenks said that he and his grandfather, Joseph Jenks, "distilled a quantity of apple whisky and sold it to get the money to pay the \$100 they had subscribed towards the building, and it is likely that others did the



same thing, for we find that but a few years before that time, there were quite a number of distillers and retailers of spirituous liquors belonging to Bucks Quarterly: In 1807, there were two distillers and seventeen retailers of spirituous liquors; in 1808, two distillers and twenty-one retailers; in 1809, four distilleries and seventeen retailers, and one tavern keeper. But there was a Temperance Committee appointed in 1810, and soon after that the Discipline was altered so as to prohibit distilling liquor out of grain, although not out of fruit.

From the best information now obtainable, it would seem that the Meeting House was built about 1816 or '17, as, in the Third-month, 1818, there was a committee appointed in the Preparative meeting to settle the treasurer's account of building the meeting house, but there is no report of that committee until the Twelfth-month, 1818, when it is said there was a balance in the treasurer's hands of \$4.60, but no account of how much had been expended. On the 30th of Twelfth-month, 1817, Silas Cary, James Worstall, John Buckman, Jr., Zephaniah Mahan, Jacob Janney, Jesse Leedom and Joseph Briggs were appointed to take a deed of trust for the meeting's property, and Joseph Briggs was appointed a caretaker of the meeting house for \$30 per year, but the salary was afterwards reduced to \$25, and then to \$20 per year. In the Fifth-month, 1818, a committee was appointed to build carriage sheds, which committee reported in the Third-month, 1819, that the sheds were completed, but there is no memorandum of how much they cost. In Sixth-month, 1819, it was agreed to make application to the Quarterly Meeting to have a monthly meeting set up, to be composed of Newtown and Makefield Preparative Meetings. This was finally consummated in the summer of 1820, to be held alternately at Newtown and Makefield, as it now is.

When Newtown Preparative Meeting was set up there was a list sent from Middletown to Wrightstown Monthly Meeting, containing the names of fifty-one men, women and children, members of Middletown, living in the vicinity of Newtown, and when the monthly meeting was organized 196 names of members were set off from Wrightstown, to belong to Makefield Monthly Meeting, but they did not all live about Newtown; quite a number of them were then joined to Makefield Preparative Meeting.

Pretty soon after the monthly meeting was set up, friends began to want a school for their children, and, as early as First-month, 1822, an effort was made in that direction, but it was not then successful. If it had been a little earlier it is probable that Friends would have availed themselves of the legacy of \$2000, left by the will of Samuel Smith, in 1817, to establish a boarding school in Bucks Quarterly Meeting, on condition that \$2000 more should be raised to put with it.

But Newtown Friends, with the aid of others, did build what was called "The Neighbors' School," and by some the "Yellow School," on the lot opposite the meet-

ing house, which stood until a few years ago, and did good service as a school. The lot is now occupied by Dr. Heston as a vegetable garden.

After Makefield Monthly Meeting was set up the quotas of the Quarterly Meeting were arranged, and Makefield was required to raise 14 per cent. of all money raised in the quarter for yearly meeting or other purposes, and at the last arrangement of the quota they were, and now are, required to raise 26 per cent.

Newtown has always kept up its corner. Raised its full share of the \$3000 for the benefit of the colored people of North Carolina, in 1827, and of the \$7000 raised to build Spruce Street Meeting House, in Philadelphia, in 1832, although they only spent \$4.25 for cushions for the seats in their own meeting house up to that time. They also raised their full share for the meeting house at Fifteenth and Race streets.

In 1827 they were \$100 in debt, and John Buckman, Jr. (the father of the present John), asked to be, and was, released as one of the securities on the meeting's obligation, he going with those Friends who called themselves "Orthodox."

In 1857 they spent \$486.17½ in new fence at meeting house and grave yard, and including 170 yards of new rag carpet for meeting house floor. This was the first carpet used in any Friends' meeting house in Bucks Quarterly Meeting. Now all of them are carpeted.

The first purchase of land for Newtown Meeting was made First-month, 1817, of Dr. Phineas Jenks, and was for two acres and eighty-five perches, for \$460, and it was deeded to eight trustees. In 1826 another lot of land was purchased, and the deed was placed on the back of the old

deed. In 1845 a new deed of trust was made to new trustees; in 1868 a new deed to include all the meeting's land was made to eight new trustees—all men Friends appointed; in 1893 another new deed of trust was made to eight new trustees, viz.: Robert Kenderdine, Lavinia W. Blackfan, William T. Wright, Elmira W. Twining, Edward P. Hicks, Elizabeth M. Horne, Edward Palmer and Elizabeth G. Stapler. In 1892, \$160.88 was expended for new fence around the graveyard and other repairs; in 1863 the upper part of the graveyard was divided into family lots. In Eleventh-month, 1868, a committee was appointed to build the portico now in front of the meeting house, and to lay a stone walk; it cost, with other improvements, \$304 in money, and there was a large amount of labor and hauling contributed and not charged for. In 1874 new roofs were put on the carriage sheds and other repairs done at an expense of \$416.13; in 1879 a new roof was put on the meeting house, the old one having lasted about sixty years; in 1884 a new ingrain carpet was put down at an expense of \$115.84; in 1886 women Friends first joined in settling the treasurer's accounts; in 1887 new stone flagging was placed in the portico at an expense of \$83.55, and there was \$64.55 spent for new cushions; in 1889 the



house was first painted on the inside at a cost of \$48.20; about 1890 a flag stone walk was laid by voluntary subscription; in 1893 new cushions were obtained and benches painted at a cost \$143.43; in 1894 there were 171 members, and the meeting is now held in joint session without the use of the partitions, men and women sitting together, and the children from the George School attend.

From, *Intelligencer*

*Doylestown Pa.*

Date, *May 4" 1894.*

### MIDDLETOWN MEETING.

Extracts from the Old Books of Minutes—

Prepared For and Read at the Centennial Memorial Meeting, at Langhorne, Eleventh-Month 14th, 1893, by John Wildman.

The monthly meetings of this locality were held in private houses until 4th mo. 7th, 1688, when they were held in the meeting house at Neshaminy, that being the forty-first monthly meeting. There is nothing on the records in reference to the building of said house.

65th monthly meeting.—4th mo. 5th, 1690. A committee was appointed to view and report a place for a burying place and let it out to workmen to fence, between this and next monthly meeting.

69th monthly meeting.—8th mo. 2d, 1690. At our said meeting, James and William Paxson hath signified that they have bargained with Thomas Stackhouse to build a stable at the meeting house for Friends that come to meeting and the said house is to be 36 feet long and 18 feet wide and 6 feet to the square, the sides to be made of sawed logs, and the roof well shingled, with two doors into it. The work being well done, he is to have £10 for doing it. Also the meeting doth desire the friends to subscribe what they can freely and willingly give towards said house.

71st monthly meeting.—10th mo. 4th, 1690. The meeting doth order that Thomas Stackhouse finish his accounts that it may appear what he hath received in pay for building the meeting house; also who hath paid and who hath not.

72d monthly meeting.—11th mo. 7th, 1690. Thomas Stackhouse hath brought in his account this day and it doth appear that he hath received £26 19s 5d in payment for building the meeting house, and it doth appear that he has done thirteen days more work about the meeting house.

85th monthly meeting.—11th mo. 7th, 1691. This meeting appoints N. Waln to speak to Friends on the other side of the creek, that they contribute what their freedom is towards the stable; and James

Paxson to speak to the Friends of the lower part of this meeting to do the like, and Vera Croasdale to the widow Langhorne, and William Paxson and Shadrack Wally to do the like and desire all that belong to this meeting that are willing to subscribe and make payment to Thomas Stackhouse as shortly as they can.

96th monthly meeting.—11th mo. 5th, 1692. This meeting finds it necessary for seats to be made for the meeting house, and doth order that a collection be made to perform the same, and that a paper be drawn and read at our First day meeting for a collection to be brought to our next monthly meeting.

118th monthly meeting.—10th mo. 6th, 1694. The amount being brought in and viewed, belonging to this meeting, and being found pretty much behind towards fixing up the meeting house with seats and other necessities, this meeting doth order that a paper be drawn to the First-day meeting for collection, and that Robert Heaton and William Croasdale take care about the same.

156th monthly meeting.—12th mo. 2d, 1697. Committee appointed to have shutters to the meeting house.

165th monthly meeting.—9th mo. 3d, 1698. It is agreed by this meeting that each window below in the meeting house shall have one light of glass, and shutters of boards to cover the glass, and the rest of the windows and the windows above the gallery to be all glassed.

169th monthly meeting.—2d mo. 6th, 1699. Committee appointed to get the burying ground grubbed and fenced against next meeting. (The committee reported two months later that the work was done.) End first book.

### SECOND BOOK—THIRTY YEARS.

12th mo. 5th, 1718. Whereas, The necessity of a new meeting house at this place has been under consideration for some time past, and a subscription being for that use it is now agreed that a meeting house be built, the dimensions whereof is to be 40 feet long by 30 feet wide, and William Paxson, Adam Harker and John Stackhouse be appointed to agree with workmen and that they shall advise with Jeremiah Langhorne, and desire his assistance, and order the stuff the first season.

11th mo. 4th, 1721. The friends appointed for the building of the meeting house do request that their accounts be inspected. The meeting appoints Thomas Thwait, John Wildman, Jeremiah Croasdale, Mathew Wildman and Cuthbert Hayhurst to inspect the same and report to next meeting.

12th mo. 1st, 1721. The Friends appointed to inspect the accounts of the managers of the building of the meeting house, report that they they did it, and find that if all the subscriptions be got that is subscribed there will be wanted about £10 or upwards.

10th mo. 6th, 1733. At this meeting it hath been under consideration, and it doth appear that there is a necessity of a new fence about the graveyard belonging to this place, and it is being proposed that it be done with stone. Thereunto Thomas Baynes, Adam Harker, David Wilson, Joseph Wildman, John Stackhouse and Joseph Richardson are appointed to meet, view the ground, fix the bounds, and near as they can, to compute the charge thereof, and report to next meeting.



11th mo. 3d, 1733. The Friends appointed hath made their report, concerning the graveyard, and to signify, that according to their judgment, the charge of walling there will amount to upwards of £70. Therefore in order that the money may be raised two subscription papers are produced, and for the ensuing month Richard Sands and Joseph Richardson are to take care that Friends and such as are free, may have an opportunity to subscribe what they are free for the purpose.

12th mo. 5th, 1733. The several subscription papers concerning the graveyard being produced, it appears likely by them that a sufficient sum of money will be raised for the wall, at least on 3 sides thereof, therefore in order to proceed therewith, John Stackhouse, John Wildman, Jonathan Woolston, Richard Sands, Joseph Walker, Jeremiah Croasdale, Joseph Richardson are appointed to meet and agree with as they think proper workmen to undertake and perfect the said work, and when completed report their proceedings to the monthly meeting.

1st mo. 3d, 1737. More stable room required, a committee was appointed for fixing a place, etc., and also to prepare and bring to next meeting, a subscription paper for the purpose.

5th mo. 7th, 1738. A new stable ordered built.

12th mo. 1st, 1738. Ordered that no negroes be buried in our graveyards. End second book.

### THIRD BOOK.

3d mo. 6th, 1760. There being a necessity of making some addition to our meeting house, to render it more commodious for the accommodation of our quarterly and general meetings when held here, the meeting orders that the thing may be gone into, and completed this ensuing season; appointed a committee to consider on the most convenient place and the dimensions of the building proposed, and compute the cost and report to next meeting.

4th mo. 3d, 1760. The committee appointed to consider the necessary addition to the meeting house, and compute the cost, report they have met and considered the same, and find it may be done at the backside for about £80 or something less, but if at the end it will be attended with more cost and they think not so convenient, but as Friends are something divided in their sentiments respecting the place, it is referred to the same committee and as

many other friends as will attend, meet and resolve more fully on the matter, and try in which place Friends in general will most incline to, and report thereon to next meeting, and in the meantime procure the timber to be cut before the season is over.

5th mo. 1st, 1760. The committee appointed to consider the addition to the meeting house, report they are of the mind that it will be most convenient and attended with least cost on the backside of the present building, with this the meeting concurring, orders that it be there erected, and a committee of managers thereof, and a committee to prepare subscription papers for that purpose.

7th mo. 1st, 1763. Two years after. The Friends appointed to examine respecting the new addition to the meeting house, report that they have inspected the same

and find that the work is chiefly done and paid for, and that there is one Friend neglects to pay his subscription, which is chiefly due to Robert Collison for money he has advanced to pay workmen.

6th mo. 6th, 1763. It appearing necessary that more stable room be prepared before the ensuing winter, it is agreed that one be built upon the graveyard wall, about 60 or 70 feet long by 18 feet wide. A committee was appointed to make an estimate of the cost, provide material, superintend work, and lay their account before the meeting when done, and endeavor that it may be finished if possible before the Quarterly Meeting, in the 11th month next. A subscription paper was ordered.

10th month 8th, 1767. The Friends appointed to adjust the accounts relating to the new stable, report that they have performed that service and find a balance due from the meeting of £11 16s. 8d. ½ penny. A committee was appointed to prepare a subscription paper, in order to raise the money and discharge the debt as soon as may be.

7th month 4th, 1785. It being proposed, that it may be of advantage to build a house on the lot of ground lately purchased by the meeting, which matter being taken into consideration, it is agreed that one be built, the dimensions to be 18x30 feet, two-stories high, with cellar under the whole. A committee was appointed to build a house of the above description, soon as they conveniently can, the cost of which to be paid by public subscription, about £180 of which is already subscribed.

4th month 5th, 1787. A committee was appointed to settle accounts of the building committee.

2d month 7th, 1788. A minute states that Mary Collins, by her will, left £10 to erect galleries upstairs in the women's part of the house, and that her will has been complied with and all the money expended.

9th month 6th, 1788. Was produced from the Quarterly Meeting a copy of a minute respecting the enlargement of our meeting house, which appears insufficient to accommodate the Quarterly Meeting. Therefore the meeting appointed a large committee to meet and consider a convenient plan, make calculation of the expense and report to the next meeting.

12th mo. 4th, 1788. The committee in the case of enlarging our meeting house reports that they have met and had the business under consideration, and are unanimously of opinion that an addition 28 feet in length, and of the same width of the old house may be sufficient to accommodate our meetings. The further consideration of said business is recommended to our preparative meeting in order that subscriptions may be entered into for the purpose of raising money to carry it on.

5th mo. 10th, 1792. As the subscriptions for enlarging our meeting house, as recommended in the 12th mo. 1788, not appearing sufficient, this meeting after conference thereon, being generally of opinion that a new meeting house would best accommodate our meetings, agreed to appoint Isaac Watson, Jonathan Woolston, Jeremiah Croasdale, Samuel Mitchell, William Bidgood, William Blakey, Joseph Paxson, James Wildman, Jr., Benjamin Buckman, Isaac Stackhouse, John Watson, Joshua Woolston,



...se Betts to make calculation of expense and report to next meeting. 7th mo. 5th, 1792. The committee appointed to consider of a plan for a new meeting house in Middletown, propose for the house to be 72 feet long, 36 feet wide, the well hole to be 12 feet, the girder the whole length, the lower story to be 7½ feet high and the expense supposed to be £750, which is generally agreed to, and this meeting appoints Joshua Woolston, James Wildman, Jr., Thomas Wilson, Joseph Paxson, Isaac Stackhouse and William Bidgood to endeavor to get subscriptions to carry it on.

8th mo. 7th, 1792. The Friends appointed to raise subscriptions for the purpose of building a meeting house, report, that there is nearly the money subscribed for that was proposed by the committee, and as there is encouragement, they are continued, and desire to receive the first part, and pay into the hands of John Watson, who is appointed treasurer for said building.

Request being made to this meeting, for the building of a new school house on the meeting's land, and no objections appearing, it is directed to the attention of the school committee.

9th mo. 6th, 1792. The Friends appointed to raise subscriptions for the building of the meeting house, report, they have made some further progress therein, they are therefore continued to that service. Benjamin Buckman, Jonathan Woolston, Isaac Stackhouse and William Bidgood, are appointed to provide materials for the purpose for the carrying on the building.

10th mo. 4th, 1792. The Friends appointed to provide materials for the building a meeting house, report, as yet they have not made any provisions. Therefore this meeting appoints Samuel Mitchell, Jonathan Stackhouse, Jeremiah Croasdale and John Watson to join said committee for providing material and superintending the work.

2d mo. 7th, 1793. The committee to procure material for the meeting house and superintend the building, are of opinion that an alteration from the plan minuted is necessary, and this meeting taking it under consideration, do again leave with the committee, in conjunction with the committee who formed the first plan, to make what alterations they may think necessary.

5th mo. 9th, 1793. As it is expected that Middletown meeting house will be rendered unfit for holding meetings, it is concluded that our monthly meetings be held at Bristol until the monthly meeting shall think fit to alter.

11th mo. 7th, 1793. This meeting being informed that a new school house hath been erected in Middletown, on the meeting's land, and as there is not subscriptions sufficient to discharge and finish the same, the meeting is requested to take it under their notice, and after consideration the meeting concludes to take it under their care, and refers the further consideration to next meeting.

As it appears that Middletown meeting house is nearly fit to accommodate our meeting, it is concluded that the monthly meeting be held at Middletown in the future.

12th mo. 5th, 1793. Monthly meeting held at Middletown. The Friends appointed to attend the marriage of James Wildman and Rachel Myers, report that it was accomplished on the 14th of last

month. That would be the 11 mo. 14th, 1793, just 100 years ago this day.

5th mo. 4th, 1797. The committees appointed to settle the treasurer's account relative to the building the meeting house, report that the treasurer has disbursed all the money that came into his hands. The committee is continued to settle the accounts of the managers in building the meeting house and respecting the balance which appeared to be due the meeting.

6th mo. 8th, 1797. The committee to settle the managers' accounts is continued.

From, *Intelligencer*  
*Doylesboro, Pa.*

Date, *May 9" 1894.*

## A LOST CHURCH.

### THE OLD ROCKHILL BAPTIST CHURCH.

Nought Now Remains of the Branch of the New Britain Baptist Church But the Graveyard in Haycock and the Supposed Foundation Site of the Meeting House of Other Days—Its Very Existence Forgotten by Members of the Church of To-Day.

The story seems strange now, but in the last century a branch of the New Britain Baptist Church existed in Haycock. There were Baptists in that region then where there are none now, and they had a meeting house and graveyard. Within this house of worship services were held with more or less regularity, but the members belonged to New Britain. To the latter place they came on communion occasions. Long ago the old church fell to decay and ruin, because there were none to worship there, and it is now only a reminiscence of former times. Its very existence was forgotten by most of the members of New Britain church of to-day, until the subject was lately brought to mind. Nought remains now but the graveyard and the supposed foundation site of the meeting house of other days.

About 1770 Rev. Morgan Edwards, a Welsh traveler and divine, was commissioned to visit and report the condition of the Baptist churches of America. He came to this country, saw every church in the various Provinces, and wrote his report. It was published in a little volume, now quite rare. His style is



quaint and old-fashioned, but quite clear, and exact in its description of details. Concerning New Britain in 1770 and its Rockhill branch we transcribe a portion of his account.

#### NEW BRITAIN CHURCH IN 1770.

"This is the ninth church in the Province of Pennsylvania, with respect to seniority. It is commonly distinguished by the above name of the township where the meeting is, in the county of Bucks, about twenty-five miles north by west from Philadelphia. The house is of stone, 40 feet by 30, erected in 1744 on a lot of two acres, partly the gift of Judge Growden, and partly the purchase of the congregation, whereon are stables, a school house and a fine grove. It is a rising ground, formed into an angle by the crossing of two high roads. The house is accommodated with seats, galleries and a stove. The church exists in two branches; the one near the meeting house; the other on the border of the Great Swamp, 14 miles off, where also is a meeting house, commonly known by the name of Rockhill. All assemble at New Britain on the first Sunday to celebrate the Lord's Supper. There are some temporalities belonging to the church also. 1st, Thirty pounds, the gift of Thomas Jones; 2d, five pounds, the gift of William George; 3d, five pounds, the gift of Simon Mathew. With these helps the income of the minister may easily be made up to forty pounds a year. The families belonging to the place are about seventy. The members number forty-nine."

In the list of members given in 1770. William Bryan certainly lived near the church on the borders of the Great Swamp, and possibly Isaac Richards and Catharine Morgan. It would be difficult at the present time to designate the families who attended the distant branch of the church. The account says they came once a month to attend communion. We may well pay a tribute to the piety and devotion of these pioneers of that primitive time who were wont to wend their way through the forests by wretched roads, over rocks and hills, crossing streams yet unbridged, a distance of fifteen miles, to attend their communion services. Their mode of conveyance then could only be by horseback. It was an age of greater hospitality than now, and doubtless they were sure of a good dinner and perhaps they staid at New Britain till the next day. We are not told who preached at this branch church, nor how often they had preaching, but it is presumed that the New Britain pastors made it a point to go there occasionally.

Now for the origin of the church. The site came by purchase from Silas McCarty, who was not of a Baptist family. This site was not in Rockhill at all, but in Haycock. It is in a rolling, hilly region, about a mile southwest of Applebachsville, near Strawntown, and on the farm now owned by Zeno Wierback. At that time Haycock had not been formed, and its area was termed parts adjacent to Springfield, Rockhill or Richland. In 1738 the Penns granted 215 acres to Silas McCarty, lying westward of Applebachsville. From this, the same year, he sold one acre to William Bryan and others for a site for a Baptist meeting house and a burying ground. This deed is not on record, but is mentioned in the recital of a later deed. So William Bryan may be termed the originator of the church.

He was an early settler of this region and the ancestor of the family which in recent times lived in Doylestown. Of this family the late General John Stokes Bryan was a distinguished representative. William Bryan appears to have lived both in Haycock and Springfield. In 1745 his name appears among those who petitioned for the formation of a township, but which prayer was not granted till 1763. He afterwards obtained a patent for 159 acres in Springfield in 1759, lying along the road from Quakertown to Springtown, near the crossing of Cook's Run.

In April, 1750, Silas McCarty died. In his will, made that year, he conveyed 100 acres to his son, Silas, "adjoining my homestead," and "to the congregation of Baptists one acre of land lying on the east side of my tract, whereon a meeting house now stands, for which my executors shall make a firm deed and title when requested by said congregation." The other son, Carrell McCarty, got his father's homestead. This shows that the meeting-house was built before 1750. Robert Thompkins and Carrell McCarty were the executors. In 1759 this son, Carrell McCarty, made the Baptists their "firm deed and title," to Trustees William Bryan and Isaac Evans. The latter lived about a mile west of Doylestown, on the homestead, later the possession of his descendants, David Evans, James Evans and J. Judson Evans.

#### THE DEED OF 1739.

The material portions of this deed for the church lot reads: Whereas there is a certain piece of land, lying near the township of Richland, beginning at a post in land formerly of Silas McCarty, and now of Carrell McCarty; thence south 16 perches; thence west, 10 perches; thence north, 16 perches; thence east, 10 perches to beginning, containing one acre, and whereas the said one acre is part of 215 acres, which John Penn, Thomas Penn and Richard Penn granted in 1738 by patent to Silas McCarty, deceased, and whereas the said Silas McCarty granted to William Bryan and others, the said acre of land for the use of the Baptist persuasion, to be to the said people a place to bury their dead and to erect a meeting house for religious worship. Now this indenture witnesses that the said Carrell McCarty, for ten shillings, conveys to William Bryan and Isaac Evans the above piece of land; only for the use of said congregation of Christians called Baptists, meeting at the meeting house at New Britain, and holding and practicing the baptism of professing believers, and holding the wholesome principles contained in the confession of faith set forth by the ministers

and elders of above one hundred Baptist congregations in England and Wales and adopted by the Baptist Association of Philadelphia, September 25, 1742; or to such members of the congregation as have their residence near the hereby granted premises to the extent and purpose that the house now erected, or may hereafter be erected shall be for the members of the said Baptist congregation and their well wishes to assemble in and at their own appointment to perform any part of religious worship, and for the ministers of said congregation or church and their successors, or any other orthodox Baptist minister owned by the Baptist Association of Philadelphia and



in union with the said association to preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ in, and to administer the Gospel ordinances, and to no other use, intent, person or service whatsoever, forever. The said premises also to be for the use of such members of the congregation as lives near for a burying place of their relatives and friends from time to time, forever. The deed was witnessed by James McCarty and Joshua Jones before Simon Butler, August 20, 1759.

Notice a destructive doctrine of the Baptist church announced in this ancient deed and found hidden away in the musty pages of the old Recorder's book—"holding and practicing the baptism of professing believers." This was a doctrine which separated the Baptists from all other sects—no baptism of infants; no birthright membership—no admission to church by confirmation as the result merely of catechism instruction—a church which admits none but those who have reached years of responsibility, and then only upon public profession of faith.

Concerning the further fortunes of the little church in the wilderness we have slight knowledge. We have scanty knowledge of the families that attended there. Besides the Bryans we learn that the Morgans were members and they are believed to have lived as far away as the Durham Furnace. William Bryan, the founder, was born in 1708, and died May 17, 1784. The church stood all that century. It continued a place of worship probably as late as 1810-1820. Rev. Joseph Mathias, of Hilltown, preached there at times during his early ministry, and that ministry began in 1806. Then the Baptists in that region being all dead or removed elsewhere there were none to maintain the old church. Its walls saw no more worshiping throngs. The elements did their work and they fell into ruin. We have no knowledge of its exact site, but it was not large.

The course of time brought other ownership of the surrounding farm. In 1763 Carrell McCarty sold to Lawrence Mier, and from thence forward his name disappears from the county records. At a later date Abel Strawn, of an English Quaker family, became the owner. He built the larger portion of the present stone house in 1805, and the present barn in 1810. At that time there was no public road, which now separates the latter from the house. The previous house was one of logs, standing east of the barn, where is now a grassy slope. Here may yet be seen a pear tree and an abandoned well. It is related that about 1867 a stranger came along to visit the spot of the old house. He sadly examined the locality, collected mute relics of the site, and said that long before it had been the home of his ancestors. He gave his name as Armstrong, and said his home was in Illinois. He took dinner with Isaac Wierback, went his way, and was seen no more.

At the time when the church existed, the barn stood on the opposite side of the road. The church lot was about 270 feet by 165 in dimensions, and extended from the brow of the hill down the slope and covered some level land at the foot. Upon the upper portion are now part of the farm buildings of Zenon Wierback. The graveyard remains intact, situated right in the rear of the stone barn. Around it is a substantial stone wall. This was erected about 1867 by some

members of the Bryan family. They cut down the timber on the slope, sold it, and with the proceeds, built the wall. Here have been many interments. Only some half a dozen stones contain legible inscriptions. They read: To William Bryan, born 1708, died May 17th, 1784; his wife Rebecca, born 1718, died July 22d, 1796. Their son William, born February 6th, 1739, died February 10th, 1819, whose wife Aliva, died in 1822, in her eightieth year. The oldest marked grave is that of Eleanor Morgan, wife of James Morgan, who died December 12th, 1764, aged 38 years. One other is Jessie Bryan, who died at the age of 30 years. This graveyard is mentioned in Davis' history of Bucks county in the account of Haycock.

The property rights of the Baptists in the one acre lot have long since lapsed from neglect to assert possession. The present owners of the farm can use the same, but not give a deed for the land. Even could it be reclaimed by the Baptists no one would think of building a church in that situation. The graveyard has been preserved and respected by the successive owners of the property, and since it is walled in is not likely to be despoiled or desecrated by any subsequent owner of the premises. Mr. Wierback was a soldier in the civil war and saw service at Fredericksburg, Gettysburg and other places.

E. M.

From, *Intelligencer*  
*Doylestown Pa.*  
 Date, *May 21* 1894.

#### LOCAL HISTORY

##### The Trymby Farm, Hilltown—The Former Wismer Plantation.

This farm is situated in eastern Hilltown, about three-quarters of a mile south of Dublin. The turnpike to the latter place is on the northeast border, and with which the farm buildings are connected by a long lane. The surface is mostly level, being on the summit level between the valleys of the Neshaminy and the Perkiomen. A depression in front of the buildings formed the meadow land, so prized by the early settler. A short distance east is the turnpike toll gate, and the terminus of the highway, whimsically called "Apple-butter street," running through this portion of Bedminster. A very ancient looking stone house stands on the meadow bank not far from the toll gate. It is now abandoned, but was formerly a tenant house. It is not so ancient as it looks, having been built by John Trymby. The present large stone house is now the residence of Samuel Huddle and his son, and for eight years recently of John L. Ebert, a son-in-law of the former. This house was built by John



Trymby in 1856. It succeeded another habitation which had stood just ninety-nine years, having been built by Henry Wismer, in 1757.

In Colonial times, or at least the twenty years before the Revolution, the nationality of the people of Hilltown was about equally divided between those of German and British descent. The former mostly held all the land in the north-west half of the township or the long slope towards the Perkiomen. On the other hand the Welsh, with some Scotch Irish, held the farms in the southeast side of the township. There were some exceptions, however, in both cases, and this farm was one of the exceptions. Here have resided owners of German origin ever since 1749. At this date Thomas Acton sold eighty acres to a Mennonite named Henry Wismer. Its limits then were: "Beginning in line of late Jeremiah Langhorne; thence by same southwest 144 perches; thence northwest by late Bernard Young, southeast 86 perches; thence northeast by Daniel George 144 perches; then by late Joseph Kirkbride northwest 86 perches to beginning." The writer has not ascertained of whom Acton bought. He was probably an absentee owner of land that was unimproved up to the time of his sale to Wismer. Daniel George was an early owner of the extreme east corner of Hilltown, which he sold to John Grier in 1738 and 1762.

It was eight years after his purchase that Henry Wismer built the house that stood for nearly a century. Previously it is probable that he lived in an inferior log house. He was then a young man as he lived fifty-seven years after his purchase. In the list of Non-Associators for 1776 we find the names of Henry Wismer and Abraham Wismer—the latter probably his son.

In 1791 an adjoining tract of 69 acres was brought of Cadwallader Evans, of Gwynedd, for £309. This was on the northwest side of the first purchase, also reaching to the Dublin road. It is a curious fact that a great tract of 580 acres in eastern Hilltown was not divided among settlers for nearly seventy years after the remaining portions of the township had resident owners. This occurred near the close of the last century. It came about in this wise. Lawrence Growden here held 1000 acres, which was left by his will to his daughters, Grace Galloway and Elizabeth Nicholas. In 1773, Thomas Nicholas and wife granted this in trust to Abel James and John Thompson for the benefit of the others heirs. Many more years passed away till in 1791 John Thompson, surviving trustee, conveyed to Cadwallader Evans 580 acres for £2500, with the following limits: "Beginning in line of Bedminster; thence by land of Henry Wismer Isaac Williams, Thomas Jones and Nathaniel Jones, southwest 550 perches thence by Thomas Mathias, Jr., and Joseph Wismer, northwest 169 perches to corner of Abraham Huntsberger thence by same and lands of Henry Leidy, John Leidy and formerly Jared Erwin, northeast 550 perches to Bedminster line; thence by same southeast 150 perches to beginning." It will be seen that this tract was half a mile wide along the Bedminster line, but was much longer, running southwest 1½ miles. Evans proceeded immediately to divide and sell this great tract of country. This

let in the Mennonites, who eagerly took possession of their long coveted lauds. Among these, besides Henry Wismer, were Manasseh Fretz, Joseph Wismer, Ulrich Huntsberger, Isaac Kolb, Jacob Kolb, Christian Gayman, George Seiple and others. It can hardly be supposed that area covering a square mile in extent had wholly been left in forest and unimproved in the middle of a populous neighborhood, down to so late a period. If improved, however, it must have been by a number of tenant farmers.

The piece which Henry Wismer then added to his farm was 183½ perches in length and irregular shape, as it fronted the Dublin road for 75 perches, but at the opposite end was 115 perches wide. The neighbors were Manasseh Fretz and

Christian Gayman. The death of Henry Wismer took place in 1806. The premises then appear to have come to his son Abraham, who, in 1814, sold 149 acres to another Mennonite, John Funk. The latter died intestate in 1821. Two years later, his administrator sold the present farm of 94½ acres to John Trimby or Triniby. Meanwhile, in 1818, John Funk had sold off ten acres to John Huntsberger and in 1818 69 acres to Jacob Beidler, being the part added to the plantation by purchase from Cadwallader Evans.

Trymby had previously been living in Bedminster. Whilst the name Trymby is of German origin, the later family were partly of Welsh descent. On the maternal side they were descended from the families of Mathias, Morgan and Griffith families. John Mathias, the ancestor of this side of the family, came from Pembroke-shire, Wales, in 1722. His second wife was Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Morgan. He died in 1748. Among his children was a daughter Mary, born in Wales. She married Jacob, son of Evan Griffith, whose wife was Sarah Coffin. Jacob Griffith and wife lived in Hilltown all their days. He was born in 1710. They had three children who grew up to have families, Evan, Abel and Mary, besides one child killed by the falling off a horse. Jacob Griffith died before his children grew up, and the widow remained unmarried. She died November 27, 1788, at the age of 67. Their children were Evan, Abel and Mary. Of these Evan married into a German family, and had nine children, Rachel, Mary, Lydia, John, Elizabeth, Benjamin, Evan, Abel and Hannah. Abel removed to Bedford county in 1789 and left descendants there. Mary, the daughter married Daniel Trymby, and they had six children, John, Thomas, Joseph, Elizabeth, Catharine and Mary. The daughters remained single. John married a Hookman, and Thomas a Shrauger. Mary, the mother of this family, died in October, 1825. Of these daughters, Catharine or "Kitty" lost her reason at times, when she used to go from house to house in Hilltown and New Britain among her many acquaintances, telling her imaginary woes. She was a sort of privileged character who came and went as she liked, often in the dead hours of the night. She was however, perfectly harmless and a vein of kindness and innocence in her disposition rendered her welcome in every home, notwithstanding her wild and whimsical freaks. She died about 1866.

John Trymby was a young man when he came to this place, and he held the property through a long life. His daughter became the wife of Samuel Huddle, the present owner. E. M.



From, *Reporter*  
*Lansdale Pa.*

Date, *May 31* 1894.

#### A Short History of the Barndt Family

The Barndt family came from Tylersport to Chalfont in 1815 when John Barndt bought the lower tavern property and 46 acres of land. He came from Tylersport and kept the Eagle hotel for a life time. At the time of his death he had reached 87 years of age. His son, David Barndt, 82 years of age, and now the second oldest resident of Chalfont, was formerly a local merchant there. From this family the village took the name of Barndtsville which assumed this name until 1845, when William Stevens, who kept the rival store, obtained the post-office and changed the name to Whitehallville. About 1870 the railroad company started to call the station Chalfont and always afterwards the little village has been called by that name. The first bridge across the Neshaminy creek was built at this place in 1792 and was succeeded by the present covered bridge rebuilt in 1840. During the Revolutionary war Washington and his army forded this stream above the site of this bridge on June 20th, 1777, and encamped at Doylestown the following day.

From, *Mail Express*  
*New York*

Date, *June 4* 1894.

### THE RAMBLER.

Old landmarks appear to excite more reverence in Pennsylvania than in New York—at least there are more of them and they are in a better state of preservation than here. This is especially true of Bucks County, which was settled originally by the Quakers way back in William Penn's time. Nearly all the houses that were built in his day are standing now. As the walls were thick, the mortar honest and the lumber well seasoned these quaint old structures are almost as good now as they were the day they were finished.

Newtown is one of the old Quaker towns.

There are half a dozen houses there still occupied as dwellings, that were built between 1690 and 1700. Langhorne, formerly called Attleboro, is one of the most picturesque places in the valley. It is about eight miles from Trenton, and twenty miles from Philadelphia, on the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad, and close to the famous

"Washington Crossing," where the intrepid American commander crossed the Delaware River with his troops. Opposition to strong drink has been handed down from generation to generation in Bucks County, and the most consistent opponents of intemperance may be found right in this particular section. The Rambler has been favored with a copy of an extract from the minutes of the monthly meeting held in the fall of 1687 in the meeting house which is still used for the same purpose, and the services—if such a word can be applied to a Quaker meeting—are precisely the same as they were 207 years ago.

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The Friends in Bucks County had heard with much sorrow that the Indians had been supplied with strong liquor by the whites, and that the red man was painting the trees red; and whooping things up with a vociferousness that upset the quiet serenity of life in the neighborhood of the City of Penn. After the most careful deliberation it was decided to express in fitting language a sense of their grief and a suggestion as to how the cause of it might be done away with. Following is a verbatim copy:

"It being recommended to us from ye quarterly meeting at Philadelphia, ye great and bad effects that has appeared by selling ye Indians rum or other strong liquors, and a paper being by them presented, which was read amongst us relating thereto—which upon due consideration was approved of—and in concurrence therewith give forth this following testimony: Being duly sensible and heartily grieved with the abuses of this nature that is too frequent up and down amongst us, especially that some goes under the profession of truth (whom it was expected should have been better example) wee fear is not wholly clear of it: Therefore wee give forth this as our sence—that ye practice of selling of rum or other strong liquors to ye Indians, directly or indirectly, or exchanging rum or other strong liquors for any goods or merchandise with them (considering the use they make of it) is a thing contrary to ye mind of ye Lord and great grief and hurthen to His people, and a great reflection and dishonor unto ye truth, so far as any professing it is concerned—and for ye more effectually preventing this evil practice as aforesaid we advise tbat this our testimony may be entered in every Monthly Meeting Book—and every friend belonging to ye monthly meeting go to subscribe ye same. Signed at and in ye behalf of ye meeting by

"ANTHONY MORIS."

This was really the first temperance meeting held in North America. The signatures to the minute comprised some solid names in Quakerdom—men who became the progenitors of active patriots in the war of the revolution; of men who became prominent in finance, in art, in trade, and in the polite professions. It included such sturdy Friends as Nicholas Waln, Thomas Stackhouse, Nathaniel Harding, Stephen Twinling, William Paxton, John Austin, John Naylor and James Dillworth. The feeling against liquor selling is as strong as when this minute was signed, although there are no longer any Indians to be tempted to set things rocking.

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From, *Democrat*  
*Doylestown Pa.*  
 Date, *June 7<sup>th</sup> 1894.*

#### THE OLD SEABRING GRAVEYARD.

##### *A Correspondent Tells How it has been Desecrated.*

On the old road a half mile East of Carversville on the land taken up by the Seabring family, a half acre was given by John Seabring for a burial ground; His own family and many others were buried there, including a noted officer of the Revolution, on the testimony of Nathan Preston. During the time of the late John Helwig the fences were kept up. It is in tradition that money was left by a descendent of Seabring to enclose it with a wall and build a gateway, but it was never applied to this purpose.

The graveyard lays unenclosed along the public road, the east end on the line of lands of John Magill, the former lands of Ent, Cowdrick, Carver and Ellis. The land joining the old graveyard on the south and west was for years owned by John Kirk, a weaver, and his house is now the residence of Seneca Ott. After Kirk's demise, who had bought the east part of the property of John Helwig, it appears that Helwig and Kirk kept up the property, but after Kirk's death, Benjamin Rich, a trustee, sold the lots joining the graveyard to John Spoor, whose heirs sold them to Dr. Brugler, the present holder.

From the present condition of the property, the way it has been plowed up, the graves desecrated, tombstones broken and removed, it seems a disgraceful reproach to the neighborhood that saw this work going on, and made no effort to stop it. It appears that the old tract of the Seabring included Dr. Brugler's home and those of David K. Grim, John Magill, William Shupe, Jesse Flukes, — Spoor, on to Seneca Ott's, a fine tract of land, and bears nothing to the memory of John Seabring except

##### A BROKEN TOMBSTONE.

[Ed.—There is a severe penalty for desecrating a graveyard, whether by plowing over the graves, breaking the tombstones or otherwise. The law has always had a very tender regard for burial places of the dead, and properly so, and those who wish to have the desecrators of the Seabring graveyard brought to justice, need but appeal to the law.]

From, *Democrat*  
*Doylestown Pa.*  
 Date, *June 11<sup>th</sup> 1894.*

#### APPLEBACHSVILLE. ✓

##### A BEAUTIFUL VILLAGE ON THE OLD BETHLEHEM ROAD.

A Descriptive and Historical Sketch of the Pretty Hamlet, Written and Read by District Attorney Paul H. Applebach Before the Buckwampun Literary Association on June 9, 1894.

Applebachsville is situated along the old Bethlehem road, in the upper part of Haycock township, Bucks county, and at present contains about twenty-four dwellings. Most of the land upon which the village is built belonged to the Stokes family, who came from England about 1680, and settled in Burlington county, N. J. John Stokes, the eldest son, came to Haycock about 1743, and remained until about 1750, when he returned to New Jersey. While here, a son was born, who was also called John, and was the immediate ancestor of the Stokes family that lived in the township for many years.

On the 7th day of 3d-month, 1786, John Stokes, of Willingborough township, Burlington county, N. J., by his will, which was proven in the Register's office of Bucks county on the 12th of September, 1806, devised unto his son, John Stokes, all his lands and improvements lying in Haycock township, Bucks county, Pa., where the said John Stokes, the son, then lived, upon condition that he pay to his mother or her heirs, the sum of 100£ in gold and silver coin, within one year after the death of the testator. This tract of land at that time contained about 400 acres, and consisted largely of meadow and woodland which was used extensively for grazing purposes and the raising of stock.

The son, John Stokes, on the 30th day of the 3d-month, 1809, by his will, which was proven before the Register of Wills of Bucks county on the 14th day of August, 1813, devised about 380 acres of the above tract to his son, also called John, and to another son named Stogdell, who held the land as tenants in common, until the first day of April, 1817, when Stogdell, by deed conveyed the one equal undivided half part in the above tract to John, his brother, who then became the absolute owner of the farm, and held it until the 5th day of January, 1837, when Timothy Smith and William Stokes, as administrators of the said John Stokes, deceased, conveyed the same to Wilson Dennis for the consideration of \$9,200, who on the same day, for the same con-



consideration, conveyed it to William Stokes, and who in turn on the 27th day of March, 1837, for the consideration of \$11,000, conveyed it to George Dutch. It will therefore be seen that for almost a century this large tract of land was in the possession of the Stokes family, and during the early part of the present century was known as the "Stokes' Meadows."

While in the possession of this family large numbers of cattle were raised upon it, which was the principal business of the Stokeses, the land being especially adapted for that purpose, and from which they realized a handsome profit. This farm is not without some historical interest, as it is said that when General Sullivan made his celebrated march into New York State to chastise the Indians, after the Wyoming massacre in 1778, the expedition spent some time on this farm and Susan Stokes, the wife of John Stokes the second, frequently related to her friends how, when she was a young wife, and lived upon this farm during the Revolutionary War, she drove the pasturing horses into the woods to keep them out of the clutches of the soldiers, who were scouring the country for animals.

George Dutch, who became the owner of the farm in 1837, was a New Englander by birth and education, having been born in Salem, Mass., and was a sea captain by occupation. For many years he was engaged in commerce with South America, and relinquished that business in 1826, when he came to New York to live. Here he was a large owner of very valuable real estate, and became very wealthy. Mr. Dutch was a large, aristocratic, fine-looking man, arbitrary and dictatorial in his manner, but was always regarded as a gentleman. He died about 1868 in Bethlehem, Pa., where he lived with his family for some years prior to his death.

About one year after he bought the Stokes farm he conceived the idea of building a mansion upon it. The old farmhouse which is still standing, slightly mellowed by the hand of time, now more than a century old, was not adapted to his tastes, and besides he desired that this large farm, for some time to come, should be the home of his son. This son, George F. Dutch, at that time, was a bright, intelligent young man, erratic in manner and visionary in purpose. He had been quite an extensive reader of novels and had imbibed, unconsciously perhaps, a spirit of adventure from the books he had read. To this quiet and secluded spot his father had brought him, away from the temptations of the large city of New York, to engage in a pursuit that was entirely foreign to his tastes and of which he would no doubt soon tire.

About one year after the purchase of the farm Mr. Dutch began the erection of the mansion. The site selected was on a small knoll, surrounded at that time by a large grove of magnificent trees, overlooking a beautiful section of mountain and valley scenery.

The house was built after the plan of a house belonging to Garret Gilbert, of New York, and was a model of the old English homes. It was built by Samuel Kachline, of Doylestown, who was the contractor, was probably one hundred feet square, one story in height, surrounded on all sides by large piazzas, studded with immense pillars. The roof is slanting, coming to a peak in the centre. The ceilings

are high, and the apartments, consisting of parlors, dining and sleeping rooms, very large, and lighted by many large windows on all sides. It was built of the very best material, and when completed was a surprise and world of wonderment to the primitive population of that section of the country, who called it "Dutch's Folly."

After its completion, on the 16th day of March, 1842, George Dutch, in consideration of natural love and affection and the nominal sum of one dollar, conveyed the farm, with the mansion upon it, to his son, who moved there and remained upon it several years. But like a spoiled child, he soon became tired of his toys, and being of a roving and eccentric disposition, and the companionship of his neighbors, who were mostly Germans, not being congenial to this city youth, he forsook the home which his indulgent father had

built for him, and subsequently spent much of his time abroad. I am informed that a few years ago, unknown and unrecognized, George F. Dutch joined the great army beyond the dark river.

On the 31st of March, 1847, George F. Dutch conveyed the above tract of land with the mansion upon it to Paul and Henry Applebach. The grounds surrounding the mansion were tastefully laid out, and additional buildings were erected for the convenience of the owners.

The following year dates the beginning of the village proper, which was laid out along the old Bethlehem road, then the great thoroughfare between Philadelphia and the Lehigh Valley. The hotel, store, and several dwelling-houses were erected, and the village christened after the names of its founders, who did so much for the future prosperity of the town. A post-office had been established, and conducted for a number of years, by William Stokes, in an old log building, occupied as a store, in the upper part of the village, and was called Strawntown.

It was subsequently removed to the hotel kept by Nicholas Raudenbush, about one mile below the village. On the 4th day of March, 1852, it was moved to the hotel at Applebachville, and John Stover was appointed postmaster, and the name of the post office changed to Applebachville.

By 1855 the village had become an established fact, and the residents of the village together with those of the immediate vicinity, recognizing the necessity and importance of public worship, erected a building suitable for that purpose, and on the 27th of May, 1855, the corner-stone of this sacred edifice was laid for the use of the German Evangelical Lutheran, Reform and Mennonite denominations, and was called Applebachville Church. The building committee consisted of Paul Applebach, Joseph Mann, William Applebach, John Sames and Jared Apple. The first Reformed pastor was the Rev. Samuel Hess, Hellertown, and the first Lutheran pastor, Rev. Mr. Miller, both of whom are now deceased. In 1890 the church was remodelled and put in its present condition.

The first school house was a small stone building erected about 1852, a short distance north of the village, and Dr. Nelson Applebach was one of the first teachers. This building was torn down in 1862, and a commodious two-story brick building erected in its place, and Rev. Dr. John Stahr, now president of Franklin and



Marshall College, at Lancaster, Pa., was one of the first teachers, and to his untiring efforts in behalf of popular education most of the success of the school is due. From 1850 to 1860 about twenty dwellings were erected, and I can give no better description of the village as it appeared from that time until 1872, when its founder died, than to adopt what Mr. John P. Rogers said of it in 1871: "Turning towards the town, we count at random, within view, on street, or nearby in neighborhood, say a score of buildings, occupied as private residences, put up for comfort and convenience, plain and unpretending, yet neat and inviting in appearance. These are mostly constructed of brick, similar in size and structure, green lawns in front, productive gardens in the rear superbly shaded, and avenues fragrant with flowers." Such in brief is the history of this little village, at one time occupying a prominent position in the business and political world, but after the death of its founder its material prosperity diminished and for the past twenty years it has not advanced.

From, *Democrat*  
*Doylestown Pa.*  
 Date, *June 14/1894.*

## BACKHOUSE'S CANNON BALL FACTORY

### A SCRAP OF DURHAM'S UNPUBLISHED HISTORY.

Sketch of the Durham Iron Works in the Times that Tried Men's Souls, Written by Charles R. Laubach, of Durham, and Read Before the Buckwampun Literary Association June 9, 1894.

One hundred and fourteen years ago, when the country was convulsed in the throes of bloody war with the British hirelings, when blatant Tories threatened and traitors planned to overthrow the thirteen Colonies, a small handful of devoted men, under the management of Richard Backhouse, in Durham, Bucks county, Pa., were busy night and day battling with nature for supremacy, and at the same time furnishing necessary supplies, men and money in aiding their brethren in the Continental Army freeing the United American Colonies from British oppression.

In the Fall of 1779 Richard Backhouse, for many years a Justice of the Peace, and chairman of the Committee of Public Safety of Bucks county, became proprietor of the Durham Iron Works, including the three Durham forges and the Chelsea and Greenwich in New Jersey. George Taylor, the signer and former proprietor, moved to Easton, but held control of the Greenwich forge until his

death, February 25, 1787. During the proprietorship of the Durham Iron Works by George Taylor, Mr. Backhouse, when not employed in legal business, was engaged in purchasing horses for the Continental Army.

Under the tutorship of a patriot so pronounced as George Taylor, Backhouse was thoroughly trained to feats of loyalty which were, in after years, of paramount importance and benefit to the United Colonies in their struggle for freedom. During 1779-80-81 and a portion of 1782 the furnace was kept busy casting cannon balls, grape and cannister for the Continental Army. The consignments were made principally to Colonel Isaac Lidman, of Philadelphia, and thence distributed whenever needed. The principal teamsters employed by Backhouse for shipping the "peacemakers" to Philadelphia were William Abbott, William Burns, John Younken, Andrew Roup, Henry Wilson, Peter Grube, Daniel Stover and occasionally a few others.

It took a four-horse team a week to go and return from Philadelphia with a load of shot and shell. The owners of Durham boats employed in furnishing shot and shell to the same party at Philadelphia were Isaac Transo, Edward Hunt, Jacob Shank and Peter Tinsman. In order to carry on the manufacture of these warlike implements, other things besides boatmen and teamsters were needed. Iron ore must be mined, charcoal burned and wood cut and hauled. The miners who dug the ore out of Mine Hill and washed and screened it were Roland Welsh, Jonas McCloskey, Patrick C. Can, George Ryman, Gregory Wilders and Henry Snyder. James Gordon and John Dixon did most of the blacksmith work. Valentine Kehler, Augustine Hess and Nicholas Coupleberger were superintendents of the wood and charcoal supply. The average amount of charcoal used annually was about 1,000 loads, representing nearly 3,000 cords of wood. This gave employment to a large number of hands. The trees had to be felled, cut, corded and hauled to the charcoal pit. One expert burner and one helper were assigned to each pit. Generally five and six pits were coaling at the same time, each requiring 7 or 8 days to coal. The colliers during 1779-80 were James Paul, John Jackson, Jacob Snyder and Jacob Kodman, experts, and Mathias Wagner, Jacob Overpeck, George Carty and Captain Shupe, helpers. Three cords of wood made one load of good charcoal.

After the pits had cooled they were opened and the coals were transported by wagons to the furnace. Jonathan Dillon hauled the first load of charcoal to the 1727 furnace. The teamsters employed in 1779-80-82, many of the descendants of whom are present to-day, were Teeter Heller, Michael Crouse, Frederick Laubach, Conrad Laubach, Milton Fabian, George Riegel, Philip Easton, Nicholas Buck and Ludwig Applebach.

We next have an industrious band of workers employed in felling, splitting and cording wood to be burned into charcoal. The following is a list of these illy-paid, self-sacrificing men, before whose vigorous and measured strokes the giant forests fell and the beautiful vales sprang to view in all their regal glory.

Wood choppers, 1779-'80-'81: James McFall, Andrew Patterson, James McEntee, Dan Applebach, Robert Maxwell, Thos. Williams, Robert Welsh, Henry



Snyder, Joseph Miller and Conrad Dear. The following coaled on their own land: Joseph Fry, Jacob Protzman, Michael Fackenthall, George Laubach, Henry Fackenthall and George Overpeck. Michael Laubach had charge of the race, dam and water wheel.

We cannot close this paper without giving a brief sketch of haymakers and harvesters of 114 years ago, employed by Richard Backhouse.

Women of that day did not shrink any of the duties that fell to their lot, nor do they to-day—but they stand to-day as then in the vanguard of progress, striving to raise the standard of humanity.

Haymakers of 1780: Mowers and pitchers—Peter Marks, Henry Wagner, James Roe, Joseph Douglas, Robert Smith, George Eddinger, Peter Knecht and Thomas Wludonger. Haymakers and rakers—Hyman's wife, Lizzy Fackenthall, Jones' wife, Eve Young, Polly Grove, Polly Houpt, Mary Waggner, Polly Cole, Mary Barnet and Anna Fry. The buckwheat cradlers were George Shill, Conrad Keyser and Andrew Little.

From, *Democrat*  
*Doylestown Pa.*  
Date, *June 14* 1894.

## BUCKWAMPUN'S GALA-DAY.

### A FEAST OF LITERATURE AND HISTORY.

The Society's Annual Meeting at  
Applebachsville on Saturday—  
President Hindenach's Address.—  
Papers Read by Various Members  
of the Association.

The celebrated Buckwampun Literary Society held its meeting for 1894 in a charming grove on the outskirts of Applebachville last Saturday. This Society meets but once a year, and its sessions are quite a social and literary factor in the upper end of the county. Besides, this organization is doing an invaluable work in the field of history, the efforts of its members being mainly directed towards historical research. Much valuable matter that would be otherwise lost is thus preserved to amuse, interest or instruct future generations. The meetings are held in various localities and the papers are mostly prepared with special reference to the particular spot in which the session convenes.

After three weeks of cloud and storm, Saturday afternoon's bright skies and balmy June breeze were very gratefully accepted as a Providential omen of favor to Buckwampun's annual literary feast. Long before the hour for the exercises to commence, the well-shaded streets of the little village were enlivened by the presence of many strangers. About the

old hotel, where Reed Laubenstein dispenses hospitality with the grace and open-handed generosity of the landlord of yesteryear, were numerous carriages and his parlors and parlors were thronged by those who had come long distances to join in Buckwampun's gala-day. The hospitable private citizens of Applebachsville also opened wide their doors to entertain their friends.

After a dinner of such good things as only Mine Host Laubenstein can prepare, the people sauntered out to the grove, where a stand and seats had been improvised for the occasion. The stand had almost been buried in bunting, flags and flowers. The opportunity for the ladies to display their decorative taste was not lost. In front of the stand was the banner of the Society, inscribed "Buckwampun Literary Association, 1888."

#### PRESIDENT HINDENACH'S ADDRESS.

When Hon. C. E. Hindenach, President of the Society, arose to welcome the friends and members of the Society, he faced an audience of several hundred intelligent, earnest and orderly people. President Hindenach said:

"It is with no small degree of pleasure and satisfaction, that I rise to open the exercises of the Buckwampun Literary and Historical Society and bid you welcome to this its seventh annual meeting, for surrounding me on all sides I notice the familiar countenances of those who have enlisted in a common cause, as well as the many friends of the Society, of this and other communities, who are here, as I take it, to manifest their appreciation of the modest efforts that are thus being put forth to reclaim from oblivion such local historical knowledge, as well as to establish such scientific facts, as will become invaluable to succeeding generations of every community as the years roll by.

"Professor Tyndall, in tracing the history of a drop of water, represents it as being lifted up from the ocean by the heat of the sun's rays and wafted over the continents by every breeze, to be again returned to the bosom of the sea. So it seems to me that after the lapse of another year the members of this Society have likewise returned, having laid aside their various avocations of life for a day and are met in this delightful grove, Nature's temple, to review the associations of literary, scientific and historic memory.

"We recognize the fact that we are living in an age of organization, and in order to attain the best possible results. It becomes absolutely essential that we bring into requisition this, one of the most potent agencies of the twentieth century.

"As all nations and peoples have to contribute their quota to the national literature and history of their respective countries and ages, so the people of every decade, in each individual community, cannot leave the busy scenes of life without bequeathing to posterity at least some history and literature.

"The object of history, leaving out of view its philosophical side, is the preservation and exposition of facts. The chief object of the Society is to collect and arrange such facts, relate such incidents, produce such data, as will lead to a complete and connected review of the past history of every locality within the confines of the Society's opera-



tion. A hitherto comparatively neglected field spreads out before the eye of the scientist, inviting investigation, to determine what kind of a record geology can give us respecting life and the various changes through which Mother Earth has passed, in every community during the cycles that are numbered.

"Minutely and unmistakably has she preserved her record on the successive formation of the different kinds of rocks and through the various fossils imbedded in them, as well as through the drift, deposited ages ago, during the glacial period; but alas! our untrained senses have hitherto failed, in part, to read it aright. Our mission is to learn how to read it.

"A gentleman relates that in his youth he walked a distance of seven hundred miles to see the Falls of Niagara. When within seven miles of the spot, he thought he heard what might be the thunder of the great cataract, and inquired of a man near by whether it was so. The man replied that it might be, he could not say; he had never been there. Here was a man who had lived all his days within seven miles of a wonder of the world, to see which men have come from the uttermost parts of the earth, and yet his curiosity had never been sufficiently aroused to induce him to make a short pilgrimage of seven miles to be afforded an opportunity to look upon this stupendous spectacle. What a lack of curiosity! What culpable indifference, you say. But upon reflecting, we may possibly be led to admit, that we, ourselves, are guilty of a somewhat similar charge.

"How eager some of us are to travel away from home in search of striking natural scenery, to feast our eyes on the grand, the picturesque, and the sublime, when in our very midst, right here in northeastern Bucks county, are the magnificent Pennsylvania palisades, the romantic Ringing Rocks, the bleak and desolate Stony Garden, aye, the towering Haycock Mountain, looming up so grandly in the distance, which, taken collectively, will form a panorama of such striking natural scenery as surely ought to please the most enthusiastic admirer of nature.

"With what eagerness the student of history devours volume after volume of history of foreign nations and people, while in his own locality there may have been enacted local historical events more fascinating to contemplate than the tales of the Arabian Nights, and of more direct interest to him than foreign or general history possibly can be; and yet, in how many instances it has been suffered to sink into oblivion.

"The society is to be congratulated on the wisdom displayed in selecting its place of meeting on this occasion, for surely no more appropriate locality could have been chosen. To the lover of nature it presents a pleasing and picturesque perspective, to the student of local history it offers a field in which he can revel to his heart's content—while in the development of mind, this community has produced a galaxy of men and women that have gone out into the various departments of the world's industry and activity, of which any community might well feel proud.

"I cannot suffer this opportune occasion to pass without an expression of my gratification at the unique completeness of the work of the Committee of Arrange-

ments. Even the heavens seem to smile on our undertaking, and earth and sky have conspired with man to make this occasion auspicious and memorable among the events of the community.

"Every individual will depart, I am sure, entertaining a keener sense of kindness and hospitality of the good people of Applebachsville and surrounding community, and with profounder appreciation of the work of the Society."

#### THE LITERARY EXERCISES.

With the limited space at command, the DEMOCRAT is compelled to resist the temptation of lengthy comment upon the several excellent papers read before the Society. Some of the more important will be published in full from time to time in this paper. At the conclusion of his address President Hindenach introduced Miss Emma Applebach, sister of District Attorney Applebach, who read "Haycock's Greeting," a rhyme couched in terms of sincere cordiality.

Applause greeted Historian William J. Buck, who was presented to the audience as "the founder of the Buckwheat Literary Society." Mr. Buck, who has many times been highly complimented for his indefatigable historical research, presented an exhaustive sketch of "The Afterbach Family," or Applebach family, both surnames being used by this family. He traced the family's interesting history in this country from the arrival of the ancestor, Johan Heinrich Afterbach, on October 29, 1770, down to the present time. The descendants of Henry have been very numerous in this county, numbering among them men of prominence in public and private life. Mr. Buck well said: "The family has been noted for its industry and honesty, and not one, so far as I know, bearing the surname has figured in the criminal records of this county, though here now a century and a quarter."

A sketch of Springfield Church was read by its Lutheran pastor, the Rev. O. H. Melchor. This was exceedingly interesting, the church being one of the oldest in the upper end of the county. The first

church antedates 1743. Mr. Melchor exhibited a bottle 150 years old, closely resembling the modern pocket flask, taken from the cornerstone of the first church, and now in the possession of Mrs. Silas Apple; one of the original building's bricks, about a foot square and an inch and a half thick, owned by Mrs. Geisinger; the weather-cock which ornamented the church in 1763, and manuscript music and hymn books used in the ancient edifice. The first Reformed pastor (1743) was the Rev. J. C. Werts; the present pastor is the Rev. A. P. Horn, who was installed May 1, 1892. The first Lutheran pastor (1743) was the Rev. Mr. Hinderline, and the present Lutheran incumbent is the Rev. O. H. Melchor, who will celebrate his fifteenth anniversary as pastor of the church on July 1 next. The Reformed congregation numbers 237 members; the Lutheran, 402. The two congregations have always worshipped in perfect harmony. Thomas H. Ochs has been organist there for the past twenty-six years.

District Attorney Paul H. Applebach, of Doylestown, was next introduced as "Haycock's favorite son." He was warmly applauded and read an interesting sketch of his native village, which appears in another column.



The next three papers were "Cressman's Mill," a sketch of one of the historic mills of the county, by Miss Anna M. Kauffman; "Trees and Tree Planting," containing valuable information on this subject, entertainingly presented by Cashier A. B. Haring, of the Frenchtown, N. J., National Bank, and "Cawley's Mill," a description of a famous mill near Lower Saucon, Northampton county, erected on or near the site of an old powder mill which was blown up about 1814.

Under the title "Seventy Years Ago," Spencer L. Hudnut, of Durham, who was born June 17, 1817, in Princeton, N. J., gave an interesting description of life in New York and Princeton when he was a boy. E. A. Frankenfield, of Haycock Run, who was on the programme for a "Sketch of Wilson Dennis," was prevented from being present by sickness.

A sketch of the Durham Iron Works in 1779-80, written by Charles Laubach, was read by his niece, Miss Laubach. It will appear in full in the DEMOCRAT. The paper is one of a series Mr. Laubach is preparing on the works, covering their history from their foundation to the present.

Lewis Sigafos, who is the leading poet of upper Bucks and who has written some really good verses, read an original poem, entitled "The Editor's Muse." The last paper, a "Sketch of Tohickon Church," was read by Asa Frankenfield. The first church edifice, Mr. Frankenfield said, is supposed to have been erected about 1743. It was log, without a floor or stove. In this the congregation worshipped until 1766, when a stone church was built. This also had neither floor nor stoves for many years. The present building was erected in 1838 and re-modeled in 1834.

The Quakertown Orchestra furnished music during the exercises. The Rev. Mr. Phillips, of Durham, extended an invitation to the Society to hold their meeting next year at that place. The invitation was unanimously accepted and the meeting then adjourned. It was one of the most pleasant sessions ever held by the Society.

From, *Democrat*  
*Doylestown Pa.*  
 Date, *June 14<sup>th</sup> 1894.*

### AULD LANG SYNE.

#### LEAVES FROM THE JOURNALISM OF THE PAST.

Recollections of the Long Ago  
 Awakened by the Perusal of Four  
 Old Newspapers.—Matters of Inter-  
 est Found Within Their Musty  
 Pages.

A few days ago we received from Mrs. Harvey Haldeman, of New Britain, four

newspapers, for inspection, all older than the average man lives to be. The most aged of these purveyors of the news is a copy of the *Correspondent and Farmers' Advertiser* (ancestor of the *Bucks County Intelligencer*), of December 29, 1818, published by Asher Miner, its founder. The other three are copies of the *Doylestown Democrat*, of the respective dates of February 9, 1830, October 9, 1832, and April 6, 1836; the first published by M. H. Snyder, the second by William H. Powell, brother-in-law of the late Dr. George T. Harvey, and the third by John S. Bryan.

These papers are yellow with age, and present what might be called a sorry appearance, compared to newspapers of the present day. On the DEMOCRAT of 1836 is the name of the subscriber, "G. Cornell," a resident of Northampton township, near Churchville, grandfather of Mrs. Haldeman. He was of the same family of that name still prominent in that section of the county that descend from Holland ancestors. The *Correspondent* bears the name of "B. Vanhorn," a resident of Southampton.

In opening these papers of ye olden time, the contents are found to be as different as their size and appearance. Besides two deaths and one marriage—that of John Marcellus, of Solebury, to Sarah McNeal, of Buckingham, by Josiah Y. Shaw, Esq., and a lime burners' meeting to take place, the *Correspondent* has but a single item of local news; the announcement that "John Riale, New Britain, has received from Governor Findlay, a Justices' commission in the room of Thomas Stewart, Esq., elected a member of the House of Representative of this Commonwealth." At that time George Burges was Sheriff; Isaac Pitcher was Adjutant of the 42d regiment of militia, whose headquarters were at Bristol, and "the Doylestown Coachee" was run twice a week between the county's capital and Philadelphia, leaving D. on Monday's and Thursdays, at 8 o'clock.

The three DEMOCRATS are on a par with the *Correspondent* in appearance, etc. The only local news in that of 1830 is the announcement of the new Row offices just appointed by Governor Wolf, viz: William Hurdy, Prothonotary, Clerk of Sessions and Over and Terminer; William Carr, Orphans' Court; Andrew Heller, Register, and Michael Dech, Recorder.

In Doylestown, Joseph Scott was a "painter and paper-hanger," and Nathaniel Hubbard, "house and sign painter and chair maker." From the DEMOCRAT of 1832, we learn that Benjamin Morris, Jr., was Sheriff (the same who hanged Mine, the poisoner of Dr. Chapman, in June of that year, whose daughter, a beautiful woman, was the first wife of the late Dr. Harvey; Samuel Aaron and Robert P. DuBois had charge of the Union Academy, which was torn down more than half a century later to make room for the handsome school building that adorns the grounds; James Gaine was Postmaster at Pennsville, Cyrus Hartley at Lumberville, and Jacob C. Nyce at Line Lexington.

In this paper there is not a line of local news, outside of advertisements, if we except the six marriages. It was published on election day, but too early for the receipt of any returns, but the Democratic ticket was elected, including William T. Rogers to the Senate, his first term, and Robert Ramsey for Congress, who, ten years later, was elected to the



same office by the Whigs. A domestic writer for the DEMOCRAT says to his political friends,

"You have a vote in freedom's home,  
Shall it be thrown away?"

and, judging by the returns, they responded to him in the negative by electing the whole Democratic ticket, and not throwing a vote away.

The DEMOCRAT of 1838, shows considerable improvement; the size is increased, the type is new, and the make-up better. It is Presidential year; with Martin Van Buren the candidate to succeed "Old Hickory." Henry Chapman was the elector for this county. In Doylestown, Samuel E. Buck kept the Mansion House, the site of Weinreb's bakery, the old walls the same; Kirk J. Price was landlord of the Citizen's Temperance House, the site of the Scheetz store; William Field was Sheriff; Elias Glikyson, Prothonotary; and Silas M. Andrews had charge of the Classical and Mathematical Departments of the Union Academy. The commissioners to organize the "New Hope, Doylestown, and Norristown Railroad," were getting to work to discharge their duties but the road never got beyond a survey. This project was many years too soon, or, as the boys would say, a "little previous." Only one half the road has yet been built, from Doylestown to Norristown, some seventeen miles; done at two hitches, a good deal like making "two bites of a cherry." When the road reaches the Delaware the DEMOCRAT will be the first to announce it—unless somebody gets ahead of it. John Barndollar was the Doylestown baker. John S. Bryan, proprietor of the DEMOCRAT, announces that he had purchased the *Doylestown Express*, a German paper which had not been issued "since the 9th of December last;" he states the principles upon which it will "hitherto be conducted," and that he had engaged the services of Henry Hory to conduct it, whom our friends Bröck and Rogers remember.

"At last day Doylestown had an insurance company, the first and only one in its history, with an authorized capital of \$100,000, and charter perpetual. William Watts, then one of the Associate Judges, was secretary. It was wound up within a few years. Since this old newspaper was printed, fifty-eight years and two months ago, almost unnumbered revolutions have taken place in the world, in dynasties, politics, economic systems, and in the manners and habits of life. None but the omniscient mind can foretell what may be the changes in the fifty-eight years and two months to come, and it would not be wise to make this known to mortal man in advance.

From, *Democrat*

*Doylestown Pa.*

Date, *June 16* 1894.

OLD TOHICKON UNION CHURCH.

A THOUSAND PEOPLE COMMUNE  
AND WORSHIP THERE.

# Historical Sketch of the Ancient Church, Read by Asa Frankenfield Before the Buckwampun Literary Association at Applebachsville on June 9, 1894.

It is hard at this late date to ascertain the time the first church was built here, but it appears that as early as 1743 public services were held at this place. The first deed on record bears the date of September 6, 1753, which was made between Jacob Rees, Martin Shaffer, Ludwig Wildonger, Jacob Rohr, John Worman and Michael Ott, trustees of the Calvinist and Lutheran congregations, of the one part, and Blasius Boyer, of Chester county, of the other part, for a tract of land situated in Bedminster township, and containing one acre and a quarter and sixteen perches, which was bought for five shillings.

A second tract, containing two acres, was bought from Enos Lewis, for 20£ gold or silver money. The deed bears the date of April 11, 1803, and was made between Enos Lewis, of the one part, and John Haney, Jacob Solliday, Jacob Beideman and Philip Schreyer, trustees of the Lutheran and Reformed congregations, of other part. A third tract was bought from Jacob Delp, containing one acre and 94 perches, for \$303.46. The deed bears the date of May 7, 1864, and was made between Jacob Delp, of the one part, and John K. Shellenberger, Thomas Bartholomew, Thomas Frederick and William Keller, of the other part, trustees of the Lutheran and Reformed congregations.

A fourth tract, containing eight perches, was bought from Henry K. and John K. Shellenberger for five dollars. The deed bears the date of November 22, 1879, and was made between Henry K. and John K. Shellenberger of the one part and the trustees of the Tohickon Church of the other part. The time of the first burial is not known, but amongst the oldest tombstones that can be found are dates as far back as 1767. The cemetery was started in 1873. The first burial was Harry Johnson in October, 1873.

The first church was built before the deed was given. It is supposed to have been erected about 1743. It was a log structure, without a floor or a stove. It served the congregations until 1766, when the second church was built. This was a stone structure, also without floors or stoves, except that the altar was laid with brick. It had galleries on three sides, but at a later date stoves and floors were also put in. The third building was erected in 1838 by Charles Nonamaker, contractor. It is a stone structure, fifty by sixty feet, also with galleries on three sides. It was remodeled in 1884. The first organ was purchased by Peter Henry at a cost of \$1,500 and presented to the church by him. The second organ was purchased in 1839 from Mr. Krauss, of Lehigh county.

The earliest reliable record is that in the "Halleschen Nachrichten," where repeated mention of Tohickon Church appears as early as 1749. In that year the Rev. Henry Melchior Muhlenberg had charge of the Lutheran congregation, which he describes as small and poor. As he had a large field and could not attend



to his congregation regularly, he secured the services of a student or candidate named Rudolph H. Schrenk, whose preaching was highly appreciated. The Sacraments were administered by Muhlenberg himself. The next regular pastors were, Lucas Raus, from 1751 to 1753; John Andre, from 1753 to 1756; Johann Martin Shaffer, from 1756 to 1759; Johann Joseph Roth, from 1761 to 1764; Johann Wolf Slzel, from 1765 to 1769; Conrad Roeller, from 1772 to his death in 1796—his body is buried beneath the altar of the Indianfield Church—George Roeller, from 1797 to 1839; Engelbert Peixoto, from 1840 to 1864; F. Walz from 1865 to 1893. The present pastor is the Rev. C. Fetter.

It is impossible at this late date to ascertain when and by whom the Reformed congregation of Tohlekon was organized. In 1738 to '43 a large number of French Huguenots and Palatine families, with some Swiss and Germans, settled in the vicinity of the church, bringing in many instances little else than the Bible, hymn-book and Heidelberg Catechism, and meeting in each others houses for worship as circumstances permitted. There are evidences of an organization in 1743, but no pastor was settled here until August 27, 1749, when the Rev. Jacob Riesz was installed. He had charge of the congregation until 1756. His successors number twelve, as follows: The Revs. John Egldio Hecker, from 1756 to 1765; Christopher Gebrecht, from 1766 to 1770; Casper Wack, from 1772 to 1781; John Theobold Faber, from 1782 to 1787; John William Ingold, from 1788 to 1789; Necoleus Pomp, from 1790 to 1799; Jacob Seim, from 1799 to 1818; John Andrew Strassberger, from 1818 to 1854; Joshua Derr, from 1854 to 1857; Peter S. Fisher, from 1857 to 1871; Jacob Kehm, May, 1871, present pastor.

Some of these pastors were highly educated. Latinisms appears frequently, particularly in the entries of baptisms. Mr. Wack was pastor during the Revolutionary period, and was an ardent patriot. Strassberger spent the whole of his ministerial life here. The average length of the pastoral relation has been about ten years. This congregation has rapidly increased in numbers and is one of the strongest numerically of the churches in the county. All the Reformed churches of this neighborhood have derived their membership from old St. Peter's, as it is called. The transition from German to English in public worship is being gradually effected by both denominations. Services have become more frequent. Benevolent and local objects receive considerable attention. Although one of the oldest churches in the county and the mother of quite a number of others of more recent origin, this church still possesses the elements calculated to render her future prosperous and useful.

But one of the pastors is buried here—the Rev. Jacob Riesz, the first Reformed pastor. On his tomb-stone you will find the following inscription: "Rev. Jacob Riesz, former pastor here, was born April 10, 1706, and died December 23, 1774." The two congregations together number about 1,000 confirmed members.

From, *Intelligencer*  
*Doylestown Pa.*  
 Date, *June 18<sup>th</sup> 1894.*

### THE AFFLERBACH FAMILY.

Read Before the Buckwampun Literary Association at Applebachsville, June 9th, by William J. Buck.

As a surname Afflerbach or Applebach is undoubtedly of German origin. For this purpose I have made some research to get at the original signification, but not with satisfactory success. Apfelbach and Auf-lehr-bach are the only pure words of that language that can approach it. The former signifies an apple stream, or literally a brook along which those trees grow; the latter a bed or channel where a stream had formerly flowed. The section of country from whence the family came is mentioned as hilly and may additionally help to explain one or the other of the aforesaid propositions, of which my preference inclines to the latter.

Wittgenstein, where they came from, is an ancient lordship, where its reigning family from an early period have been the possessors of a castle, which is still existing, and gave it name. Its location is in Westphalia, and not in the kingdom of Wurtemberg, as has been heretofore supposed. I presume it is situated about sixty miles northeast of Cologne, on the Rhine. Although I have failed in securing information on the antiquity of the family, there is reason to believe that the Afflerbachs have resided around there from a remote period. I have as yet been unable to find traces of them elsewhere, hence we may conclude that it must be one there of local origin, and likely assumed since the year 1350. In the efforts to anglicise it here is variously spelled in records, even as Offlerbach, Appleback, Afflerbage, besides nearly a dozen other deviations. In this county it is chiefly Afflerbach, which is generally accepted as the proper surname.

#### HENRY APPLEBACH, OF SPRINGFIELD.

The first to arrive here of this family, according to records, was "Johan Henrich Afterbach," who embarked at Rotterdam on the ship Sally, John Osmond, master, and arrived in Philadelphia October 29, 1770, aged about 31 years, and a smith by occupation. How early he came into Springfield is not known, but very probably not long thereafter. He was enrolled a member of the Company of Associators August 21, 1775. In the following year we find him assessed as a single man, residing with John Wolfager, the owner of an 80-acre farm. It is very probable that at his place he set up his occupation. In 1780 he is no longer stated as



single but is taxed for 20 acres and possessing two horses and one cow. So it may be assumed that before the latter date he married Maria Renshimer, of said vicinity. The children of this union were John, Henry, Daniel, Elizabeth, married to Abraham Roudenbush; Catharine, to Nicholas Roudenbush, and Rosina. Of these will have more to state hereafter. Two others; George and Maria, died in early life.

There is reason to believe that the aforesaid Henry Applebach from the beginning settled in the vicinity of where is now the creamery, about a mile above Huronville, where he spent the remainder of his life. He is mentioned as having given in his oath of allegiance May 28, 1778, to the new form of government, before George Wyker, Esq. His purchase from John Thoupson was made June 15, 1797, of 50 acres of land. If he did not make the first improvements thereon, he certainly must have made the larger portion. As letters of administration were granted in 1816 for the settlement of his estate it is likely that he died within said year. A tombstone has been erected to his memory in the graveyard attached to the Springfield church, which unfortunately contains no date, but states that he was aged over 77 years, so we may conclude that he was born in 1739.

The widow and heirs sold from off said place 6 acres, June 5, 1817, to Jacob Barron, and is stated to have been bounded by lands of Jacob Renshimer, probably a brother of his wife. The balance of the tract was retained by the family until sold at public sale August 4, 1824. From the advertisement we learn that it contained 46 acres and on the road to Bethlehem, the improvements being a two-story stone house with a kitchen adjoining, frame barn with stone stabling underneath, tenant house, blacksmith shop and stable, with spring house and other outbuildings, abounding in meadow, woodland, apple orchard and a fine running stream of water. It thus passed from out the family and its members removed to the vicinity of where is now Pleasant Valley. The aforesaid property was long in the possession of Henry Stover, and is the same on which the creamery has since been erected.

John Applebach, the eldest son of the ancestor, removed many years ago to Millin county, Pennsylvania. He had a large family and has numerous descendants there. They have changed the name to Applebaugh. Henry was born in 1786 and according to a stone at the Springfield church, died September 9, 1855, aged upwards of 69 years, 7 months. His wife's name was Sarah and had a son Levi born November 1, 1827, but beyond this can give no particulars of his family.

Daniel Applebach was born July 12, 1788, and married June 2, 1811, Catharine, the daughter of Paul Apple and his wife Christina Kappes. He was commissioned a justice of the peace by Gov. George Wolf, May 15, 1833, and I believe served in said capacity until the close of his life. He removed to near the site of Applebachsville, Haycock township, where he died August 18, 1852, his wife having preceded him four years. According to his will he was the owner of considerable real estate in that vicinity. Among his other effects mentions therein his library. He had children Paul, Henry, William, Harriet, Catharine and Lucy

Ann, who have all exhibited strong local attachments for the scenes of their childhood.

Rosina, who was born in 1790, in early life entered into storekeeping on her father's place, and after its sale removed to the vicinity of Pleasant Valley, continuing in the same for many years. She died December 13, 1868, at the advanced age of 78 years, 4 months.

Paul, the eldest son of Daniel Applebach, Esq., was born in 1816, and in early life began to exhibit business qualifications that eventually brought him into the rank of the enterprising men of this section of the country. In the military he was advanced to the rank of Major General of the militia. With his brother Henry he dealt extensively in horses and cattle. In partnership with the latter in 1847 purchased of George F. Dutch what was so long known as the "Stokes Farm," a tract containing 377 acres, whereon had been built in 1837 one of the first country seats in the upper end of Bucks, where he continued to reside to the close of his life. In 1848 they commenced the erection of buildings and chiefly through their enterprise grew into a village, and when the post office was established their name was applied to the place. He maintained an active career until overcome with dropsy, from which he died March 26, 1872, aged upwards of 56 years, 4 months. His demise was greatly regretted and it was supposed that upwards of 800 persons attended his funeral.

Henry Applebach was born November 28, 1818, married August 29, 1845, Sarah Jane, daughter of James Ely, of Monroe county. He was also an enterprising man and in connection with his elder brother done much to advance the property of the village and its neighborhood. He was here for awhile the postmaster and kept the hotel. His children were James, Daniel, Camilla and Sarah Jane. William, the youngest of Daniel's sons, was a life long resident of the village. He married January 11, 1846, Sarah, daughter of George Walp. His death occurred in August, 1891, aged 70 years. Three children survive, Paul the present District Attorney of Bucks county, Emma and Lizzie.

#### DANIEL AFFLERBACH, OF HAYCOCK.

He was the son of John George, who resided at the Burg or Castle of Wittgenstein, where his relative Henry had come from in 1770 and soon thereafter settled in Springfield. In company with his brother Ludwig he arrived in Philadelphia, September 30, 1773, aged at this time 28 years, and through letters received from the aforesaid Henry, resolved to emigrate to America, and was thus induced to come into the upper end of Bucks county and settle down there a farmer for the remainder of his life.

We possess no further evidence respecting him until 1776, when he was assessed in Haycock for 110 acres of "rocky land," two horses and a cow, his tax therefore being 3 shillings or about 40 cents of our present currency. We find, foreigner as he was and only a few years here, that he was enrolled for military service, and fined in 1778 and 1780 for not regularly attending the trainings, whether he was on more active duty is not mentioned. That he was on the patriotic side we know by his having taken the oath of allegiance, July 17, 1778, before Thomas Long, Esq., of Durham.



He purchased of John Schoch, April 10, 1797, 107 acres for £425, at present owned and occupied by Jefferson Afflerbach, his descendant. By patent he secured 155 acres, January 22, 1811, for \$278, which covered all of the present site of Danielsville and the surrounding section. On this he made the first improvements and retained in the family, down to 1838, when his son-in-law, John Welder, sold a part of the old homestead portion to George Snyder, now owned by his son Isaac.

In this connection I may state as aware that Danielsville, in its application here, for over half a century, has been looked upon as a joke. Now I say let the name be retained and perpetuated in honor of Daniel Afflerbach, the first original purchaser and improver of said section, where he so long lived, and died leaving a creditable record and a numerous body of respectable descendants. He survived to December 14, 1825, aged 80, and Anna Dorothy Pupp, his wife, followed him two days later at 72 years. They repose beside each other in the graveyard attached to St. Luke's church, Nockamixon.

John George Afflerbach, the eldest and the only son, was born March 13, 1775, and married Dorothy, daughter of Balthaser Steinbach, April 3, 1798. They had thirteen children, of whom eight were boys, thus causing this branch of the family in surname to be now the most numerous in Bucks county. He was a member of a company commanded by Lieutenant Andrew Apple, and did service in the summer and fall of 1814, at Marcus Hook, for the defence of Philadelphia. He was administrator of his father's estate and at a public sale in April, 1827, the farm of 147 acres was sold to Anthony Wirebach, who it is presumed purchased it for the aforesaid. He died December 22, 1837, aged 65 years.

Through research a curious matter has just come to light. In this family there is a tradition that he had early in this century received a Bible as a gift from his grandfather, after whom he had been called, and which is still in the possession of one of his descendants. On being informed of this in my investigations in Philadelphia for material on the Afflerbach genealogy, I ascertained that there was a John George Afflerbach who arrived in the ship Fortune, from Hamburg, September 8, 1803. I have in consequence arrived at the conclusion that he was the person, and that he had been there on a visit to his relatives and that this denoted his return and how he had received said present.

We shall now resume mention of the daughters of Daniel Afflerbach. Sarah married Anthony Wireback, Elizabeth born in 1777 married Abraham Mill, Catharine Isaac Deihl, Mary Isaac Mill, Maria Dorothy born 1783, Charlotte 1785, and Magdalena born Jan. 21, 1790, married John Welder. The latter couple were well known to me and frequent visitors to my father's house. She died Feb. 7, 1861, and her husband June 24, 1867, aged nearly 76 years. They had children, William, David, Peter, Mary, John, James and Daniel. In 1827 he became the owner of 66 acres of his father-in-law's estate, on which he resided until sold in 1838, when about 1843 he removed from Springfield to the Bissey farm in Tinicum, where he died. A majority of his descendants now reside in Philadelphia.



















